

## PLO warns Hamas over killings

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AFP) — Yasir Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) warned the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Sunday not to carry out more "executions" in the Israeli-Occupied Gaza Strip. A Fatah spokesman here, Said Ayad, told AFP the PLO had warned Hamas "it would lose the support of the population and wreck relations with us if it carries on like this." Mr. Ayad was referring to the killings of three men and one woman Friday and Saturday in the Gaza Strip, two of whom belonged to Fatah. Izzedine Al Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas later claimed three of the killings. Five hundred PLO supporters protested over the killings in Gaza Sunday. A member of the PLO's bureau in Gaza, Talal Abu Sbitan, said Hamas "must tell us of its suspicions before deciding to execute a Palestinian." "It is not up to Hamas, to decide the fate of suspects," Mr. Sbitan added. Twelve people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since the signing of the Israel-PLO peace accord in Washington Sept. 13, most of them by Hamas, which opposes the peace deal.

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## Talal Al Hassan meets Yemeni minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan Sunday reviewed with Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammad Salem Bassandwah the latest developments in the region and exchanged with him views on issues of common interest. Mr. Bassandwah is currently on a private visit to Jordan.

## Bread prices to go up in 1994

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government will reduce subsidy on a number of basic food stuffs in 1994, minister of Supply Radi Ibrahim said. The Al Ra'i Arabic Daily quoted Mr. Ibrahim that reduction of subsidies would include bread whose price will rise by five to 10 fils per kilogramme. The current price of bread is 85 fils per kilo. Also to be affected will be animal feed whose prices will be slightly raised to the current black market prices, the minister said. The other subsidised commodities will not be affected, but the government will conduct a study on a new mechanism for gradual reduction of subsidies on the one hand and ensuring that needy groups only benefit from subsidies on the other, he said.

## U.N. protests to Israel over shelling

TYRE (AFP) — The United Nations protested to Israel Sunday after three Nepalese U.N. troops were injured, one of them seriously in mortar fire from Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon. "We sent a strong protest to Israel," said Norwegian General Tord Furhoud, commander of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), who on Sunday visited the U.N. base at Majdal Zun, to the west of the occupied zone, where the three troops were injured by a mortar shell Saturday (see page 2). Gen. Furhoud said the Israeli army was "the occupying force and it is responsible."

## Jailed ex-FIS chief said to be ill

ALGIERS (R) — An Algerian newspaper said on Sunday jailed fundamentalist Abbass Madani, whose now-banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) nearly captured power in parliament, was seriously ill in hospital. Al Watan, usually well-informed on security issues, said: "He has been the victim of a heart attack which needed urgent hospital care." Mr. Madani, 62, was arrested in June 1991. A year later he was imprisoned for 12 years by a military court along with his deputy Ali Belhadj. The two were convicted of attacking state security, undermining the national economy and distributing tracts.

## Iran says two rebels' captured

NICOSIA (AFP) — Security forces have arrested two members of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, Iran's main armed opposition group, after they entered the country illicitly from Iraq, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Sunday. The group immediately denied the claim in a statement faxed to Cyprus.

## Huge blast near Kashmir shrine

SRINAGAR (AFP) — A massive blast was reported late Sunday near an Islamic shrine where up to 100 militants have barricaded themselves against a possible storming by Indian soldiers. Residents reporting the explosion near or from the Hazratbal shrine by telephone said they heard the blast around 11:45 p.m. (1815 GMT). "It sounded like a rocket taking off," said schoolteacher Sunay Begum from a residential district adjoining Hazratbal shrine located on the outskirts of this Kashmir state summer capital. Some 10,000 Indian army soldiers surrounded the shrine (see page 8).

## Settlers must quit Gaza Strip—Shaath

### Israeli officials say thousands of Palestinians could be freed soon

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — All Israeli settlers must leave the Gaza Strip within two years, Nabil Shaath, head of a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation to autonomy talks with Israel, said in comments published in a newspaper here Sunday.

"The government is not putting it up, not initiating new settlements.... it did not speed up construction," Mr. Dobkin said.

Mr. Bazak, however, said the move into the settlement, that lies just east of the green line was political.

"This is a very political act that in these days instead of leaving, people are continuing to expand (the settlements) as always," Mr. Bazak said.

There are about 120,000 Jewish settlers living among the nearly two million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Under the PLO-Israel autonomy plan, the settlements will not change in the initial two-year phase but their future is open to discussion for the permanent status of the occupied territories to be negotiated by 1998.

There are some 4,000 Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip, and their representatives have vowed they will stay on despite the autonomy deal.

Mr. Shvinger said he expected 1,100 families in the settlement, located 35 kilometres northwest of Jerusalem towards Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's government pledged to halt settlement construction in the occupied territories and housing ministry spokesman Amit Dobkin stressed that Kiryat Sefer was already in its final stages when Mr. Rabin took office.

The United States announced earlier this month that it was slashing Israel's \$2 billion loan guarantees for this year by over \$400 million due to unauthorised investment in settlements.

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"The Israeli evacuated their settlements in the Sinai as part

of the peace agreement, but Israelis still come as tourists," he said.

Dr. Shaath, a senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat, said Israel should declare a general amnesty freeing 12,000 Palestinian prisoners.

"But we could release a number of prisoners immediately and the rest once we take over control of Gaza and Jericho and will be in charge of security," he added.

Dr. Shaath's committee is in charge of negotiating the prisoner issue with the Israelis.

Mr. Rabin said Sunday that Israel would eventually release large numbers of prisoners held in Israeli prisons, fulfilling one of the PLO's conditions for peace.

"We certainly will come to the freeing of prisoners," Mr. Rabin told Israel Radio, confirming his intention to release the prisoners for the first time. "Not just one here and there, but big numbers."

He added that the prisoners would be freed in the context of the negotiations stemming from the PLO-Israel agreement.

Mr. Rabin did not give a number, but reports have said that only 2,000 prisoners would remain in Israeli prisons.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said earlier that the agreement had negated the reason for keeping many of the 11,000 prisoners.

"I think the large majority (of prisoners) will be released since circumstances have changed, the reasons for their detention and arrest have vanished or changed. Our position also needs a change," Mr. Peres said to army radio.



**FLIGHT IN PANIC:** Haitians clamour to board a bus to take them out of the Haitian capital Sunday (see page 10). Many Haitians are leaving Port-au-Prince to escape expected violence following the shooting of the Haitian justice minister and the impending United Nations embargo (AFP photo)

## Peres sees tripartite accord as inevitable

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday a three-way peace between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians was inevitable, and asserted that Israel was close to making peace with Jordan.

"You only have to look at a map to realise there is no alternative to an agreement between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians," he said in an interview on state-run television.

"We are not far from reaching a complete (peace) agreement with Jordan," he said.

Israel and Jordan signed an agenda for peace negotiations on September 14, the day after the Jewish state and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed a historic peace agreement.

Beilin's 'advice'

Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said Sunday that PLO Chairman Arafat should avoid talk of a "Palestinian State," Israel Radio reported.

"The idea of a Palestinian state is regarded as a threat by many Israelis. So it would be better to talk of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation," Mr. Beilin said, referring to the final status of the occupied territories, which will follow five years of autonomy.

Mr. Beilin, who was speaking at a meeting near Tel Aviv on the final status of the territories, said it would be "better to talk about practical matters, rather than dreams."

The final status still has to be negotiated.

Mr. Beilin met Mr. Arafat in Tunis last week to discuss the fate of Palestinian refugees.

Speaking at the same meeting Sunday, Ziyad Abu Ziyad, adviser to the Palestinian delegation at the peace talks in Washington, rejected Mr. Beilin's comments.

"A confederation is a framework linking states, and can only be envisaged after the establishment of a Palestinian state," Mr. Abu Ziyad said.

## Ross due here tomorrow ahead of mid-November Christopher trip

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Denis Ross, the Middle East coordinator of the administration of President Bill Clinton, is expected to arrive here Tuesday for talks with Jordanian leaders on the Middle East peace process, a senior official said Sunday.

The confirmation of Mr. Ross' visit came amid reports that Washington was delaying the next round of Arab-Israeli peace talks until the end of November in what was interpreted as an indication that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was planning a visit to the Middle East in the middle of next month.

Fayez Tarawneh, Jordan's ambassador to the U.S., who arrived home Saturday ahead of Mr. Ross' visit, said the Kingdom would be taking up a "variety of issues related to the Middle East peace process and Jordanian-American relations" with the American official.

Mr. Ross, who will be accompanied by other members of the so-called Middle East peace team of the Clinton administration, is visiting the region to follow up on the recent progress made in some tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations and the apparent deadlock in others.

His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali and other senior officials are expected to meet with Mr. Ross.

Dr. Tarawneh told the Jordan Times that as the co-sponsors of the peace process, the U.S. has major concerns to ensure the continuity and fruition of the effort and to follow up on the recent developments following the Sept. 13 signing of an Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) declaration of principles and the endorsement of a Jordanian-Israeli agenda for peace negotiation on Sept. 14.

While the PLO-Israel accord cleared the way for Jordan to sign the agenda for peace talks with the Jewish state, little progress has been visible on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of negotiations with Israel.

The next round of talks, the 13th since the peace process began in Madrid in September 1991, was scheduled for an unspecified date towards the end of this month.

But a report from Jerusalem said that the Israeli government had been notified by the U.S. that the next round of talks was delayed until the end of November.

"We have received an announcement from the Americans that there will not be peace talks in Washington next week," foreign ministry spokesman Rafi Gamzu was quoted as saying by Reuter.

Reuter also quoted an unidentified Israeli official as saying that he believed that the U.S. was delaying the talks because Syria was threatening to boycott the talks unless Israel was willing to make progress.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharra said in Cairo Saturday that the visits of Mr. Ross and Mr. Christopher would determine the course of the peace process and said unless Israel showed willingness to make progress in the Syrian track of negotiations Damascus would stay away from the next round of talks.

Dr. Tarawneh said Jordan had not received any formal notification of the delay, but said: "If the report (of the delay) is true then it is a confirmation of a possible visit to the Middle East by Secretary of State Christopher in mid-November."

The ambassador pointed out that a Christopher visit would need advance preparations, and then the Arab parties involved in the peace process would have to hold a coordination meeting, with the net result that the next round of talks would move to be delayed.

On the bilateral dimensions of Mr. Ross' visit this week, Dr. Tarawneh said the U.S. envoy's talks here would be an opportunity to follow up on the

(Continued on page 5)

## U.N. forces suspend hunt for Aideed

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday that talks with Syria could only make progress in direct meetings such as those that led to Israel's accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The formula laid out in Madrid two years ago, where "at the same time all delegations come to one place for a limited time, has to date not brought one Arab-Israeli agreement," he said on returning from a week-long trip to the Far East.

"We (have) the intention of reaching comprehensive peace, but this means bilateral peace treaties with all the Arab partners... any attempt to condition one agreement on the others is a recipe for failure."

His statements appeared aimed at calming Syrian fears that Israel has sidelined talks over the future of the Golan Heights while it concentrates on implementing the accord granting Palestinians self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank of Jerusalem.

Israeli-Syrian talks have been deadlocked for over a year. Syria insists on full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, but Israel wants a commitment to full diplomatic relations first.

Israeli officials fear strong internal opposition to any deal to return the strategic plateau.

At the same time, there is concern that is frustrated, Syria might try to sabotage the Israeli-Palestinian peace.

Dr. Osama Al Baz, a top aide to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, said on Israeli Television Sunday night that Syria was ready to meet Israel's demand for a full peace and that an accord could be signed by early next spring.

But he urged Mr. Rabin not to delay finalising an agreement with Syria so that the Israeli public could catch its breath and absorb the dramatic changes that have already taken place with the Palestinians.

"It would be a mistake to say

justice. In recent months U.S. troops often spearheaded the search and, in turn, became the most prominent target of Somali attacks.

Violence in the capital has since escalated, culminating in an Oct. 3 street battle — part of a search and capture mission — that left up to 18 Americans dead and brought about a quick shift in U.S. policy.

President Bill Clinton promised to "depersonalise" the conflict in Mogadishu, saying he would work for a political settlement while pledging that all U.S. troops would be out of Somalia by March 31.

Nevertheless, the United Nation's special envoy to Somalia, retired U.S. Admiral Jonathan Howe, said last week that the U.N. effort to capture Gen. Aideed continued.

Asked about her recent statement that failure to take action against Gen. Aideed would be seen as appeasement towards the clan leader, Ms. Albright responded: "What we're doing is trying a different method. What I think we all

have to learn in this period is flexibility. There are different ways of doing things, and we are trying different tools."

Ms. Albright also said she had discussed with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali the advisability of visiting Mogadishu during his present African tour and noted: "I think that there are aspects to it that might not be the best."

U.S. officials have expressed concern about the timing of Dr. Ghali's visit to the volatile capital, but Ms. Albright said: "He is the secretary-general and he is entitled to do what he wants."

Aideed supporters demonstrated in Mogadishu Sunday with an angry message for Dr. Ghali — any visit by him to their country would be unwelcome.

"Dr. Ghali has bombed us and murdered us. We don't want him here," screamed an Aideed aide through a loudspeaker as he perched on the balcony of a ruined building in Mogadishu.

The crowd, composed mainly

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. MAZEN S.SALEH

Cardiologist

Fellowship in Cardiology (R.F.)

Former Head of

## Iran warms up to Iraq, S. Arabia to fend off U.S.

By Laurent Maillard  
Agence France Presse  
TEHRAN — Iran has launched a campaign to normalise relations with its former enemies Iraq and Saudi Arabia, hoping the move will cripple U.S. efforts to isolate the Islamic republic.

After a three-year break in contacts, Tehran and Baghdad are to resume discussions on "pending issues" and a ceasefire signed between the two countries after their 1980-88 war.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was due in Baghdad Sunday following a decision by foreign ministers from the two countries during a meeting at the U.N. General Assembly

last month.  
"We have decided to solve our problems with Iraq," Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said in announcing Mr. Zarif's visit last week.

Iran had previously demanded war reparations — \$100 billion by U.N. estimates — along with freedom for its PoWs and a halt to Baghdad's support for Iranian rebels as conditions for reestablishing ties.

Although Tehran has avoided raising those conditions ahead of Mr. Zarif's visit, foreign diplomats here doubt that Iran would agree to a settlement with Iraq without securing at least part of the demands.

"The rapprochement with Iraq is essentially tactical," a European ambassador said. "It's a move to convince the United States and its allies in the region that Iran is a potential source of trouble and could not be isolated."

"Iran has constantly squeezed a weak Iraq for concessions without offering anything in return," an Arab diplomat said.

On the domestic front, observers say Iran will have no problems in resuming ties with Iraq, which is considered by many radicals as Iran's "natural ally" in the struggle against the United States.

Normalisation of ties with Baghdad would also be supported by the families of pris-

oners of war and of those missing in action as well as by the religious lobby in Iran, which sees improved relations as an opportunity to resume pilgrimages to Shi'ite Muslim shrines in Iraq.

But the chances of better relations appear limited as, according to one diplomat, "Iraq is still the main military threat to Iran in the region."

Moreover, getting too close to Baghdad could backfire and "provoke the international community, notably Iran's Gulf Arab neighbours," with which Iran has been seeking rapprochement, he said.

Iran, in a bid to counter American pressure and to ensure its strategic interests, has also stepped up efforts to boost

ties with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf monarchies, all considered U.S. strongholds in the region.

A reconciliation with Saudi Arabia, after 12 years of animosity, could also lead to improved ties with other Gulf Arab states and to common oil policies in a bid to control prices, diplomats said.

In a surprise move last month, Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani telephoned Saudi King Fahd to seek help in pushing through an accord during a meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva.

Mr. Rafsanjani's initiative was seen as instrumental in reaching a new agreement on

production ceilings and on ways to curb price falls.

But unlike Iraq, efforts at improving ties with Saudi Arabia are expected to be strongly opposed by Iranian radicals, who regard King Fahd as an "enemy worse than the United States" and one who represents "American Islam."

Determined to avoid such opposition, however, the government has obtained the approval of spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and the National Security Council for a rapprochement with Riyadh.

"This confirms that Iran is ready to go much further than in the past in normalising relations with its southern neighbours."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Bush denies link to Kuwait venture

KUWAIT (R) — Former U.S. President George Bush denied Sunday a report that he was involved in a joint irrigation pipeline venture with Kuwaitis and Egyptians. "I have no connection, direct or indirect. Indeed I had never heard of it," business venture your paper mentions, Mr. Bush said in a letter published on the front page of Kuwait's English-language Arab Times Sunday edition. The Kuwait News Agency reported on Oct. 5 that Mr. Bush had agreed to head a joint Kuwait-American-Egyptian venture called Gaya Technology to manufacture water filtration pipelines for underground desert irrigation in the Middle East. The report, published in the Arab times the following day, said the company would build a \$10 million factory in Egypt that would manufacture the pipes. "When I left the White House I was determined to conduct myself in such a way as to avoid any kind of activity, anywhere, that might diminish the respect that I feel for the office I was so proud to hold," Mr. Bush's letter said. "I decided I would have no connection with any business enterprise in the USA or abroad. I would serve on no business board of directors. I would make no personal investment in any business activity. To avoid any perceived conflict of interest, my personal finances are being handled by a trust company." Mr. Bush visited Kuwait on April 14-16 to receive a medal from Kuwaiti leaders to mark his leadership of the coalition that liberated the emirate from Iraqi occupation in February 1991. Mr. Bush's party included his sons, Neil and Marvin, former Secretary of State James Baker, retired army Lieutenant General Thomas Kelly and former White House Chief of Staff John Sununu.

### Rushdie exhorts Europe to take stand

PARIS (AP) — British author Salman Rushdie, living under a death sentence decreed by Iran, on Saturday exhorted European nations to stand up to "this regime of gangsters." Europe "must make its choice," Mr. Rushdie said in a letter to the newly-formed Defence Committee for Salman Rushdie. "Does it want to keep this tyranny alive or send it back to the outer shadows from where it came?" The British author provoked the ire of Iran's former spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, with his book, "Satanic Verses," Ayatollah Khomeini, who is now dead, issued a decree in 1989 ordering Mr. Rushdie's death. Iran refuses to lift it, and the British author has lived in hiding ever since. Mr. Rushdie recalled the recent murder of his Norwegian editor, William Nygaard, and asked: "How many innocent victims must be killed so that Europe accepts to confront Iran?" "To tolerate these murders, to feign ignorance of evil can only encourage (Iran)." "Don't be fooled by this regime of gangsters which appears to have an absolute and tyrannical power, because it is at once feared and hated by Iranians." It was unclear whether Mr. Rushdie was adding his voice to a row between Germany and its British and American allies who protested Friday over talks held earlier this month between German and Iranian intelligence chiefs, a seeming bid to strengthen relations. Germany has important trade ties with Iran. The Paris-based defence committee, presided over by sociologist Claude Lefort, was formally established this weekend, in part to "spread the defence of Salman Rushdie to schools, universities and libraries." It hopes also to act as a pressure group on French and European institutions.

### Vietnamese premier holds talks in UAE

DUBAI (R) — Vietnam's Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh held talks Sunday with officials in the United Arab Emirates as part of a tour of Gulf Arab states to boost trade relations. The official Emirates News Agency said Mr. Khanh had arrived in the UAE on Saturday night. While in Kuwait, Mr. Khanh was quoted as saying that Vietnam was seeking loans from Kuwait to finance development projects and has offered to sell it rice. UAE newspapers quoted him as saying that Vietnam was interested in promoting trade relations with the UAE and exploring new opportunities for economic cooperation.

### Um Jihad: State would help make up for assassination

TEL AVIV (AP) — The widow of assassinated Khalil Al Wazir told an Israeli journalist that a Palestinian state would help compensate for her husband's death. "If the agreements (with Israel) will lead to a Palestinian state, all those who died, of them being my husband, did not die in vain," Mr. Wazir's widow told Pinhas Inbari of the daily Al Hanessian newspaper. Reports published here have suggested the remains of Mr. Wazir, Abu Jihad, would be brought to Gaza for burial after Israel's withdrawal is complete next spring. Mr. Wazir, who was responsible for the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) military operations against Israel, was killed in his home in Tunis in April 1988 by an eight-member squad. The PLO blamed Israel for his assassination, but Israel has never officially acknowledged the killing.

### Egypt starts training Palestinian police

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has started to train hundreds of Palestinians to form a new police force in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, an Interior Ministry spokesman said Sunday. The spokesman confirmed reports in Cairo newspapers quoting Interior Minister Hassan Al Alf as saying 50 police officers, 130 administrative officials and hundreds of individuals had started training at Cairo's police college and other centres. Under the Palestine Liberation Organisation's self-rule deal with Israel, Palestinians will start to police Gaza and Jericho in December as Israeli troops begin withdrawing from the two areas. Palestinian police will be deployed elsewhere in the West Bank later next year. As well as police units of the Palestine Liberation Army are training in Egypt and Jordan to become a Palestinian national guard. Their tasks will include helping to control the Palestinian side of Gaza's international borders. Israel will remain responsible for external security under the agreement. Thousands of Palestinians inside the occupied territories have volunteered to serve but it is not clear how big the police force or the national guard will be.

## Hariri hopes Christopher visit will unlock peace talks logjam

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri Saturday expressed hope that talks with Israel could be unblocked by a visit to the Middle East of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

In an interview with Radio Monte-Carlo, monitored in Cyprus, Mr. Hariri blamed Israel for the lack of progress on the Lebanon-Israeli track of the Middle East peace talks that started in October 1991 in Madrid.

Israel was "obviously busy with the Palestinians," Mr. Hariri said to explain the lack of progress with Lebanon. He was referring to Israel's secret autonomy agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Secret negotiations in Oslo gave way to the signature on Sept. 13 of the historic deal on Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.

In accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 423, Beirut wants Israel to withdraw from a southern Lebanese zone occupied in 1978. Israel has said it will not withdraw unless security arrangements are made first.

Mr. Hariri expressed hope that "a new situation would be created" after visits to the re-

gion of U.S. special coordinator to the Middle East Denis Ross and Mr. Christopher.

Mr. Ross is expected to visit the region next week, whereas Mr. Christopher's trip has not been confirmed yet in Washington.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaf said Saturday in Cairo that Mr. Christopher will come early November to the Middle East.

### U.N. troops wounded

Three U.N. peacekeepers were wounded in South Lebanon late Saturday by an artillery shell fired from inside Israel's self-styled "security zone," a U.N. spokesman said.

Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said three Nepalese soldiers with the nine-nation force were wounded when a shell slammed into their post near Majdal Zoun village, just outside the zone in South Lebanon.

"The shell hit the position directly. Three soldiers from the Nepalese contingent were wounded, one of them seriously," Mr. Goksel told Reuters.

The IDF (Israeli defence forces) claim they did not fire the shell."

The 5,400-strong UNIFIL

## Wounded U.S. pilot returns home

FORT CAMPBELL, Kentucky (Agencies) — A flag-waving and newly decorated U.S. army helicopter pilot, Michael Durant, returned to his Kentucky home base on Saturday after 11 days of captivity in Somalia.

This is your last stop. This is your home. This is your family. We're going to take care of you. We're going to get you back on your feet," Mr. Durant's commanding officer, Major-General John King, said at a welcoming ceremony.

About 3,000 well-wishers cheered as the wounded army warrant officer arrived at the base.

Mr. Durant, 32, was captured after a gunbattle on Oct. 3 with supporters of Somali warlord Mohammad Farah Aidid. He was released on Thursday.

Earlier on Saturday, Mr. Durant was awarded the Purple Heart, given to military personnel wounded in action, by Army Chief of Staff Gordon Sullivan at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington.

Mr. Durant was carried off the C-14 military aircraft at Andrews on a stretcher and met by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Deputy Secretary William Perry and other dignitaries.

A car-bomb explosion on Feb. 14, 1988, killed three senior PLO officers in Limassol. They had come to Cyprus to charter a ship to carry protesters to Israel on a trip to dramatise the plight of Palestinians.

The day after the car-bombing, the ferry the three officers had chartered, the phryne, was disabled by a limpet mine in the Limassol harbour.

British sovereign bases on the island also have been targeted.

## Cyprus is on alert against possible terror

LIMASSOL (AP) — Frogmen and helicopter-borne anti-terrorist policemen staged manœuvres Saturday to demonstrate their ability to protect 48 world leaders attending next week's Commonwealth summit.

The exercise marked the end of a year-long training of 2,500 policemen assigned to protect the guests, who include Queen Elizabeth II.

Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides led hundreds of people who lined up the beach of this southern port city to watch frogmen surfacing from under the water and policemen slithering down on ropes from helicopters to storm a supposedly hijacked ship, overpower terrorists and rescue hostages.

Small arms fire and underwater explosions echoed during the hour-long exercise.

In addition to the queen, 47 leaders of Britain's former colonies and dependencies are scheduled to attend the 7-day conference, opening Thursday.

This tiny island has often been caught in the cross-fire of regional violence, and officials have admitted in recent days that providing security for the summit had become a major problem.

Officially, Cyprus has refrained from speculating on the likely targets or threats.

But the Irish Republican Army, for example, is widely considered a logical menace to the British monarch.

Over the past 20 years, there have been several plane hijackings, political assassinations and bombings in Cyprus as the Middle East's secret services settled scores.

In 1985, three Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) guerrillas, including a Briton, killed two Israeli men and a woman aboard a yacht in the marina at Larnaca. The Palestinians claimed the three victims worked for Mossad, Israel's secret service. Israel said they were tourists.

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### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy and dusty.

There will be a chance of local showers and winds will be southeasterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and dusty and there will be a chance of thunderous showers. Winds will be southerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Dr. Mohammad Al Zu'bi ..... 99.570

Amman ..... 16 / 20

Aqaba ..... 26 / 36

Deirat ..... 15 / 30

Jordan Valley ..... 15 / 30

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swieifieh, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624501.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrananta Church Tel. 622346

Fajr (Sunrise) Delta Dair

Delta Dair

Assar

Maghreb Yalla

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

Church of the Annunciation Tel.



**DS VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT:** Queen Noor Sunday opens a charity bazaar for the benefit of the south of Jordan. All will go towards the implementation of various development projects for the village, which population of 3,000. Dabouk Al Saeed organised this year's charity bazaar, two previous fund-raising events

which helped finance nourishment projects for families in the village. Mrs. Daoud also helped establish a kindergarten and purchase a tractor for farmers in Al Qreigra. Proceeds of this year's bazaar will go to the establishment of a training centre for handicraft production to create new job opportunities and to enhance the living standards of families in the village. Upon arrival, Queen Noor was received by Mr. and Mrs. Daoud, as well as by NHR President Imaam Mifti. Accompanying the Queen to the bazaar was Mrs. Noor Izzedine (Petra photo)

## iting British official says dan deserves full support

(Petra) — Visiting British foreign officer Sunday said he understood Jordan's economic situation and that the King's all forms of enable it to maintain role in the Middle East.

arrival here Saturday for a two-day visit. Mr. Anan said the British would honour its terms made at the donors conference in Washington on Oct. 10. He is director of the Foreign Office, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Talal Hassan and re-

ce process developing the Palestine Organisation



**TRIES ON DIS**  
His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Sunday stands in Royal Highness Prince Hassan in the Jordan International Exhibition at the International exhibition, organises the International establishment, electric equipment, furniture, food items, chemicals, flowers, and tiles. Taking the eight-day exhibition from 11 countries, including Germany, the United States,

France, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Palestine, Taiwan, India, in addition to Jordan. Among the companies taking part are 20 Palestinian industrial com-

## in engineers to meet on bio-technology

Organised by the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA), in cooperation with the University of Jordan and the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), the conference will review 105 working papers presented by delegates from 25 participating countries.

Jordan will submit 46 papers dealing with local industries such as phosphate, potash, cement, petroleum refining and glass manufacturing — all topics closely related to the environment — in addition to chemical engineering sciences, said Dr. Sayed.

In addition to the relationship between industry and the environment, he said, discussions will focus on occupational safety measures and planning chemical industries.

Among the delegates will be ten professors employed by faculties of engineering in Arab, European and American universities, as well as researchers in the application of chemical engineering, added Dr. Sayed.

He said that during the conference the university will hold a three-day exhibition of engineering equipment.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition by artist Farouq Lambez at the Art Gallery.

Exhibition — a presentation of works of Jordanian and international artists involved in archaeological, apical and environmental research in the Petra region at the Royal Cultural

Centre drawings exhibition by late Naji Al Ali at the Pakistani University Club in Jabel Amman.

Exhibition of handicrafts at Abu Jaber Yacoubi (next to Kan Zaman).

Exhibition by artist Abir Al Bayab, Ujeilat, Mohammad Abu Aftab, Misra'at, and Mohammad Abu Abu Neir Club.

Exhibition by artists Mahmoud Taha and Abbas at Abd Art Gallery.

Exhibition displaying pictures from Syria by German artist J.

Swakowski at the Goethe Institute.

★ Art exhibition by Mrs. Lucy Marto, Janine Seaf, and Tete Wegelin at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Art exhibition by artist Ali Talib at the Balka's Art Gallery at Al Fuleh.

★ Art exhibition by artist Mahmoud Al-Ubedi at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Art exhibition by artist Ali Al Mi'mar at the Orafati Art Gallery. Telephone 626932.

★ Exhibition of etchings by Mohammad Omar Khalif at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hamid Shoma Foundation in Jabel Luwehdeh. Also showing the permanent exhibition. Telephone 643251/2.

**DISCUSSION SESSION**

★ Discussion session entitled "The Palestine Cause and the Palestine Liberation Organisation After the Palestinian-Israeli Agreement" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:00 p.m.

## Arab solidarity ensures area's interests — Majali

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, which is keen on maintaining good relations with all Arab states, is currently striving to improve these relations, according to Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday.

The Kingdom has no interest in boycotting any of the Arab countries and believes that the Arab nation's highest interests could best be guaranteed through pan-Arab solidarity, the prime minister said during a visit to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) where he met with CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi and senior staff.

Pledging the government's support of private sector endeavours, Dr. Majali said the public sector would minimise its interference in order to promote production and export.

Dr. Nabulsi reviewed the major functions of the CBJ and its future plans.

The bank's main task, he said, lies in drawing up the country's monetary policies and controlling local bank operations and the national currency.

A general dialogue on development and economic issues followed Mr. Nabulsi's briefing.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 120 economic, administrative and social development experts are gathering today (Monday) at Forte Grand Hotel in Amman for a three-day conference entitled "Future Horizons in a Changing World" to be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Organised by the Amman office of the Engineering Management Consultants Team International, the meeting will deal with technological de-

velopment, the environment and development, freedom and democracy administration, among other related topics, according to Maqboleh Hammoudah, the group's Amman office manager.

The delegates will also direct their attention to challenges facing institutions of the Arab World, the post peace era, and challenges and prospects of new markets for Arab products, added Mrs. Hammoudah.

She told the Jordan Times that experts from Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia will deliver lectures to the audience

which will include at least 20 participants from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian delegate Nabil Shaath, who is also Team International's board chairman, is expected to present a working paper tackling economy and technology, citing experiments in Southeast Asia for Arab countries to benefit from, said Mrs. Hammoudah.

The move towards peace in the region, its impact on the Arabs and the future challenges together with the spread of democracy and political pluralism will feature in other topics to be reviewed, she added.

She said Rima Khalaf from Jordan will present a research paper entitled "Jordan versus competition from the outside world."

Mrs. Hammoudah said Team International, a non-governmental pan-Arab orga-

nisation, undertakes consultancy services for Arab governments and institutions and has provided training for 750 Arab nationals, including those from the West Bank, in management and related fields.

In the next two months, she said, the group's experts will be visiting the West Bank to offer consultancy and training services and is planning to work out a scheme designed to help improve Jordanian industry and open new markets for Jordanian manufactured products.

## Thoraya Obaid named ESCWA deputy head



Thoraya Obaid

development, population and women and development.

She has served on many regional and international committees. Currently Mrs. Obaid is serving as a member of the Advisory Editorial Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women. She is also a member of the International Advisory Committee on Women and chairs the Arab Regional Advisory Programme Committee of the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

During her career with ESCWA, she established the Arab Women and Development Programme in the Secretariat. She supervised the implementation of many technical assistance projects at the national and regional levels and provided technical advice to ESCWA member states in the area of women and development. Mrs. Obaid organised and participated in many workshops at the national and regional levels, as well as many international, regional and national seminars and conferences, in addition to publishing papers, in the area of social

development, population and women and development.

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Within ESCWA, she represented the Secretariat in the Appointment and Promotion Board at the headquarters in New York.

Mrs. Obaid is a mother of two girls.

## New book looks into Islamic Action Front

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Al Urdun Al Jadid (New Jordan) Research Centre has published a new book in its series about political life in Jordan.

The book, entitled The Islamic Action Front, is a translation of an Arabic version on the front, with an added forward that describes in brief the history of the Muslim Brother-

hood Movement in Jordan.

It includes sections on the IAF ideology and principles, its organisational structure and a biography of IAF Secretary General Ismail Al Farhan.

This is the fourth title in the centre's series about political life in the country.

It is the first to be translated and published in English.

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Khaled Al Ghzawi Sunday said the United Nations Committee on Compensation for the Gulf war victims has received 96,858 claims from Jordanians by the end of September, 1993.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Pet-



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday meets with Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi (Petra photo)

## 120 specialists to review 'future horizons in a changing world'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 120 economic, administrative and social development experts are gathering today (Monday) at Forte Grand Hotel in Amman for a three-day conference entitled "Future Horizons in a Changing World" to be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

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## Europe could absorb Jordan's winter produce, says AMO chief

### JEDCO plans local, international trade fairs

AMMAN (J.T.) — An agricultural trade exposition held this month in Cologne, Germany revealed that European markets would easily absorb several Jordanian products, especially during the winter, according to Salem Lawzi, director general of the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO).

Mr. Lawzi, who returned Saturday to Amman after representing Jordan at the exposition, said that Europe needs green beans, strawberries, sweet peppers and early seedless grapes, as well as herbs such as thyme, sage, mint and parsley; all of which can be grown in the kingdom, particularly in the warm winter month in the Jordan Valley.

He said that European markets would require reduced amounts of Jordanian cucumber, eggplants, marrow and tomatoes, since large amounts of these products are imported from Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Cyprus, Morocco and Israel.

Referring to Jordan's participation in the expo, Dr. Lawzi said the AMO, in cooperation with several exporters, displayed

ed vegetables, fruits and domestic plants and flowers at the expo.

He said 3,975 firms representing 75 nations participated in the agricultural event.

Jordanian products, which for the first time included white cheese, attracted visitors and importers, he added.

Dr. Lawzi said he held talks with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development on marketing Jordanian products in Germany. The agency, he said, has been helping Jordan to display its products at German fairs.

JEDCO plans fairs

Meanwhile, the Jordan Exports Development and Commercial Centres Corporation (JEDCO) is planning Jordanian trade fairs and exhibitions to be held inside Jordan and abroad next year, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted JEDCO Director General Mohammad Bani Hani as saying Sunday.

The fairs and exhibitions are aimed at opening new markets for Jordanian products in an ever-expanding world market, said Dr. Bani Hani.

JEDCO is continuously cooperating with local and foreign consultancy services to explore new markets.

## Compensation panel receives 96,858 Jordanian claims

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Khaled Al Ghzawi Sunday said the United Nations Committee on Compensation for the Gulf war victims has received 96,858 claims from Jordanians by the end of September, 1993.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Pet-

ra, Mr. Ghzawi, who is also chairman of the Higher Committee for Compensation, said all claims are governed by criteria set by the United Nations Security Council, which in this case is the Board of Directors of the International Committee on Compensation.

The claims will be studied

thoroughly before any decision is taken on them, Mr. Ghzawi said.

He added that the International Committee has so far taken no final decision on any of the claims submitted to it by member states whose citizens have been affected by the 1991 Gulf war.

THE CEREBRAL PALSY FOUNDATION

RESULTS OF RAFFLE HELD AFTER THE SPONSORED WALK 15.10.93

1	2014	ROYAL JORDANIAN TICKET - NEW YORK
2	3051	ROYAL JORDANIAN TICKET - NEW YORK
3	4251	RADIO/CASSETTE RECORDER - ISSA MURAD & SONS
4	3655	MANS WRIST WATCH
5	8348	GAS HEATER - DAHDAL INDUSTRIAL CO.
6	5461	VACUUM CLEANER - ISSA MURAD & SONS
7	8003	GIFT JD50 - BATSHON - SUWEIFIA
8	3499	GIFT - ROYAL DOULTON - SUWEIFIA
9	3646	CALCULATOR - SCIENTIFIC SUPPLIES
10	3509	SILVER TRAY - ONWAR SHOP - SUWEIFIA
11	2788	BABY PRAM - ALADIN CO.
12	4468	VASE
13	8499	VASE
14	5232	VASE
15	2956	VASE
16	3546	DINNER FOR 2 PERSONS - KASHMIR RESTAURANT
17	3444	GIFT FOR JD 20 - LINA LAMA SHOP
18	5830	PLATE WITH CHOCOLATE - PATCHI - SUWEIFIA

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

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### Fresh start for Sudan?

**SUDAN'S GENERALS** who on Saturday chose to dissolve their ruling Revolutionary Command Council deserve to be commended and congratulated. It is hoped that by doing so the generals have put Sudan back on the path to political tolerance, democracy, pluralism and human rights. The Sudanese leadership, whether under Western pressure or not, needs to reform its political system and join the trend towards democracy and ethnic and political pluralism. That country has been plagued by a civil war, mass displacement of people, poverty, illiteracy, famine and the denial of political freedoms. Each of these factors has only contributed to the general deterioration of the situation in that Arab country. Sudan does not lack the natural resources, qualified leaders and friends in the Arab World and in the West who are willing to extend a helping hand.

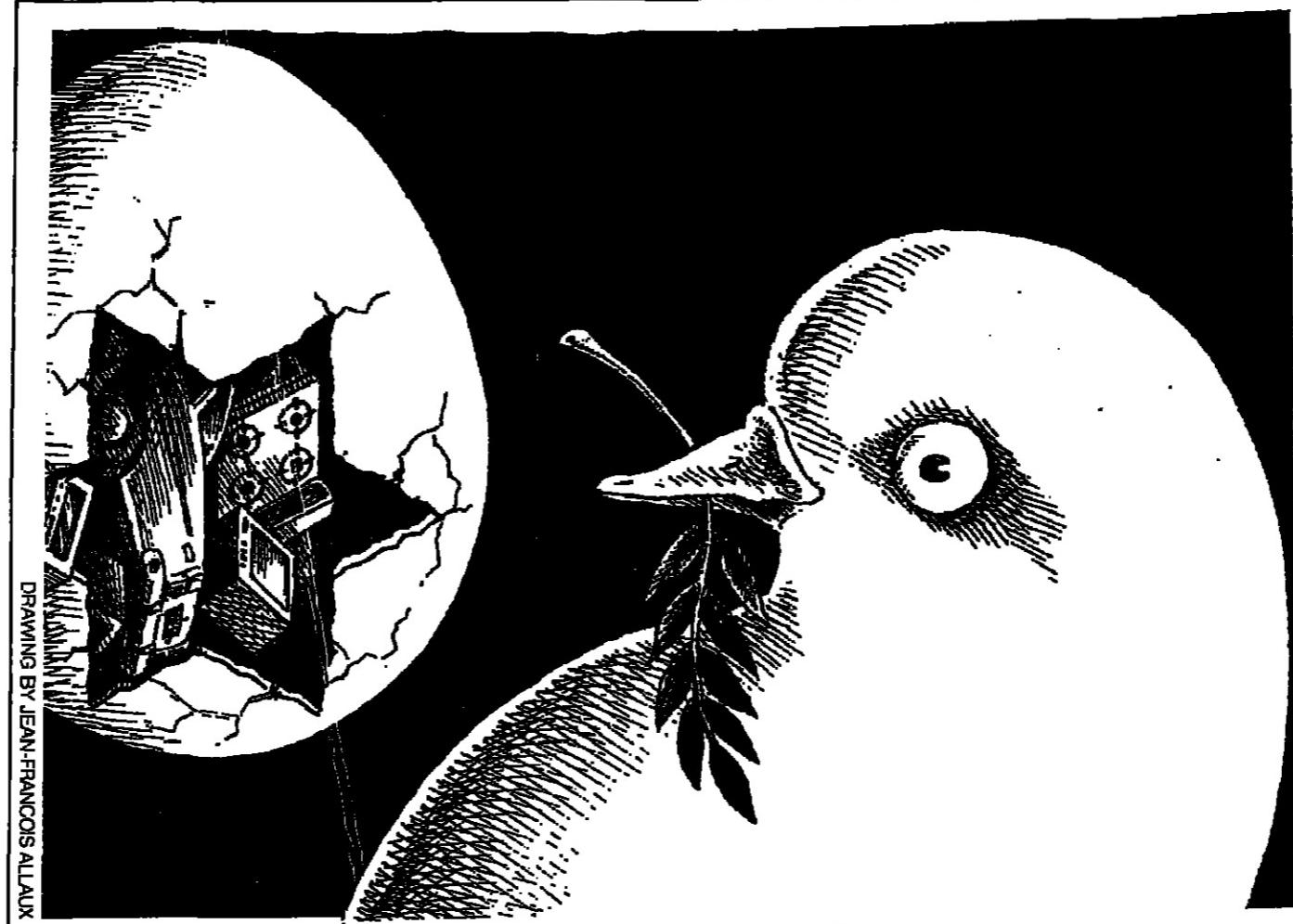
The Sudanese president, General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, has now a formidable task in front of him. He has to recognise and bring together the different political factions in the country and to win their support for political reconciliation, especially between north and south. He needs to pursue in earnest the deadlocked talks with the SPLA, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, to put an end to bloodshed and to the squandering of that country's meagre resources on armament and fighting. He needs to improve the country's relations with his neighbours and also with the West that has been targeting Sudan lately. And most importantly, he needs to consolidate the gains the country has made in economy, especially in agriculture. For economic development is a prerequisite for stability.

Gen. Bashir cannot certainly do all of that single-handedly. He will require the counsel and assistance of veteran political leaders and qualified Sudanese technocrats dispersed all over the world. The Sudanese people have suffered enough. After decades of turmoil, poverty and famine they deserve a hope for a fresh start.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS largely due to Israel's intransigence that no progress has been achieved along the Israeli-Syrian and Israeli-Lebanese tracks, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. What Israel seems to want is a kind of peace in which the Arabs will normalise their relations with the Jewish state, opening their borders for its trade and ending the Arab boycott without ceding any territory it occupied in the 1967 wars, said the daily. Holding on to very weak pretenses, Israeli leaders have been stalling and dragging their feet about the question of withdrawing troops from the Golan Heights and the southern Lebanese territory, thus making it impossible for any peace settlement, added the paper. If Israel believes that its agreement with the Palestinians would serve as a form of pressure on Lebanon and Syria, to succumb to Israeli wishes, it is no doubt living in total illusion, said the paper. The Israeli position has no doubt prompted the Syrian foreign minister to declare in Cairo Yesterday that there will be no return to the negotiating table with Israel unless they were positive indicators on the Israeli part. Syria believes that talks with the Israelis over the past two years was just a waste of time and effort, the paper continued. By so declaring, said the paper, Damascus is telling the whole world that it is for a just and comprehensive peace which can ensure the return of the usurped lands and is not ready to stand further Israeli procrastinations.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Sunday commented on a recent report by the Arab League which revealed the high rates of illiteracy in the Arab World. The report said that 38 per cent of the men and 65 of the women in the Arab World are illiterate, which means that social and economic development is very poor and lagging behind most nations, said Taher Al Udwan. This Arab World, which has spent more than \$400 billion over the past two decades on arms which were not used for any purpose and which did not help regain lost Arab territory, is indeed living under the heavy burden of illiteracy, making any talk about catching up with other nations futile, said the writer. Udwan attributed the Arab World's failure to achieve any economic and cultural progress to the poor infrastructure which makes any move towards achieving success in political, economic and social fields out of reach. He said that this high rate of illiteracy is bound to retard not only any progress, but also determines the kind of governments that rule in the Arab World and the manner in which the Arab masses deal with the political, economic and social challenges.



### Cola war displaces real war in the new Israel

By Glenn Frankel

WHEN I first met Major General Amram Mitzna of the Israeli army in late 1987, he was spending 18-hour days throttling the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank while preventing terrorist attacks across Israel's border with Jordan. A much-decorated war hero with a military man's ruthless determination and a liberal's conscience, he didn't much care for the work, as he was the first to admit.

The last time I saw Gen. Mitzna, a few weeks ago, he had retired from the army after a distinguished 30-year career and was running for mayor of Haifa. He had turned down the prospect of becoming director-general of Israel's Ministry of Defence to take over a city of 250,000, a much tougher and grubbiest position. The reason? "You know, as we begin to make peace agreements with our neighbours, security is no longer the most important issue on the agenda," he told me. "Now it's economic and social questions that are going to decide Israel's future. This is where we're heading and this is where I want to get involved."

Amram Mitzna's decision is in many ways Israel's as well. Over the past half dozen years ever since the Palestinian uprising, the intifada shattered two decades of status quo relationships and status quo thinking in both Arab and Jewish society. Israel has been on the move. Last month's historic signing of a joint declaration of principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation was dramatic confirmation of that national journey.

The old Israel — heroic, insular, beleaguered and collectivist, surrounded by implacable enemies in a state of constant siege — still captures most of the headlines. But a new Israel, on display in the Washington ceremony, is coming of age — still cognisant of its tragic, blood-stained past, but self-confident, pluralistic, more open and more bourgeois. The old Israel needed generals; the new Israel needs mayors, high-tech engineers, risk-taking entrepreneurs, modern managers and lots and lots of demanding insatiable consumers. And, of course, to really blossom, it needs the peaceful relations with its neighbours that last month's accord held out as a promise.

My family and I lived in Israel between 1986 and 1989, when I was Jerusalem bureau chief for The Washington Post. We returned for a sabbatical last year, a few weeks after the Israeli left captured the June election and the Labour Party's Yitzhak Rabin became prime minister. We were astonished by how much had changed in that brief time.

The defeat of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud — which after 15 years in power believed itself to have a permanent lock on the government — was the most visible part of it. But there was much more. Three years of solid economic growth, a 10-per cent population increase due to the immigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union, and the gradual crumbling of the old, quasi-socialist economy had turned Israel into a very different country. The streets of Jerusalem were jam-

med with late-model cars, the supermarkets stocked with imported foods, and there were new shopping malls, coffee shops and American fast-food franchises wherever we turned. Brave new high-tech firms like Scitec and slimmed-down, revitalised companies like Koor and El Al were booming.

Even the seemingly immutable features of Israeli life had changed. The army and the government press office had moved from the old Zionists' six-day work week to the Western-style five-day variety. And the operators at Bezek, the infamous state telephone monopoly whose bureaucrats could have given insensitivity lessons to the KGB, seemed nicer. I called about a malfunctioning phone line and, wonder of wonders, a Bezek technician arrived and fixed it on the same afternoon. I thought I'd died and gone to Switzerland.

New life has come to grassroots movements that for years were buried under the weight of the obsession with security. The Israeli Knesset (parliament) held its first public hearing on gay rights several months ago and another one recently on sexual harassment of women in the army. By early next year Israelis will be recycling paper, metal and glass for the first time. Air and water pollution suddenly matter to people who not so long ago seemed to spend all of their free time and conversation worrying about the next war.

The new war are American-style and bloodless the cola war after Pepsi (which for years had honoured the Arab boycott against Israel) took the plunge and entered the fray against Coke, the pizza war between Dominos and Pizza Hut, neither of which had existed here when we left in 1989, and coming soon, the French fry war between McDonald's, which has sought to break up the state-sanctioned local monopoly on frozen fries, and the local Burger-Ranch.

Of course, all of this yearning for westernised consumerism isn't an unvarnished good. The old Israel was a cohesive community that took care of its own and gave all of its members a sense of shared purpose and sacrifice that life in the capitalist fiefdoms of the West too often lacks. There was also an egalitarianism — the head of one of Israel's largest computer firms served in the same reserve military unit as his driver. In the mess hall and on patrol in the Gaza Strip, they were equals. The crime rate was ridiculously low, as was the unemployment rate.

The new Israel is enjoying single-digit inflation for the first time in decades, but is also burdened for the first time with double-digit unemployment. It is scrambling to absorb nearly a half million Russian Jews, the cream of a former superpower, into a country of 5 million. And it is still wrestling with the tensions and contradictions of trying to be a Jewish state and a secular democracy at the same time.

Yitzhak Rabin, the old warrior, and his aides saw the wave of change sweeping this country and sought to ride it during the 1992 election. They ran a Bill Clinton-style campaign that promised "a new

agenda" that would turn Israel around. It was essentially an appeal to economic populism and to widespread dissatisfaction with Mr. Shamir's Likud, which looked compromised, corrupted and bankrupt of ideas after so many years in power.

Like Mr. Clinton, Mr. Rabin has been slow to deliver. The Labour Party has a lot of constituents who still believe socialism isn't a dirty word and who still draw their salaries from the bureaucracy and old-style Zionist institutions. Mr. Rabin and his cabinet have had to tread lightly — the much-anticipated privatisation of state-run companies, the selling-off of state-held bankshares and the reform of the bloated, inefficient, state-controlled health fund have all gone much slower than planned.

At the same time, Mr. Rabin has changed spending priorities in fundamental ways. Much of the money that under the Likud went to fund the building of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza is now helping finance new roads, schools and other public needs inside Israel proper. The phone system and national electrical grid are undergoing intense modernisation. Such investments are invisible at first — they don't pay off for five or 10 years. But they will have a lasting impact on what Israel will look like in 2000.

What has been highly visible is Mr. Rabin's handling of the security situation — which all the warm, cuddly, Americanised rhetoric at last week's signing cannot disguise. Despite the handshake between Mr. Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat, relations between Israelis and Palestinians have been steadily deteriorating since the time of the Gulf crisis in 1990. In fact, relations have gotten worse still under Mr. Rabin, considered more pragmatic than Mr. Shamir. But Mr. Rabin, as it turned out, not only contributed to the enmity, he used it to help prepare the Israeli public for the deal of the decade.

Mr. Rabin understood that the Likud had become the victim of its own Greater Israel ideology. Since Likud preached that the West Bank and Gaza were a permanent part of Israel, it opposed the idea of separating the people of the territories from those of Israel proper. When waves of stabbings by Palestinians occurred, Likud leaders would seal off the territories for a while, but were always compelled by their own beliefs to eventually open up the invisible borders again.

But Mr. Netanyahu has an ideological problem as well. Even more than Mr. Rabin, he is an Americanised televisionised politician and an articulate apostle of modernism, consumerism and the bourgeois society. At the same time, as a security hawk he espouses the politics of the siege. These are contradictory themes — Israel can't afford to spend more than 14 per cent of its gross domestic product on defence (proportionately nearly three times what the United States spends) and buy new cars and houses as well. It cannot be a mobilised garrison-state always on the alert and at the same time a pluralistic, tolerant democracy. If Mr. Rabin's gamble pays off, the seams in Mr. Netanyahu's argument could begin to unravel. — The Washington Post.

## Now attitude must change

Following is an editorial that appeared in the Oct. 8, 1993, issue of the London-based *Middle East International*.

A MONTH ago, on the eve of the historic meeting in Washington at which Israel's prime minister shook hands with the chairman of the PLO, we pointed out that if the agreement between them was to come to anything there was an urgent need for two things: for speed in its implementation and for the kind of gestures that would encourage confidence on each side in the sincerity of the other.

"Since then, alarmingly little has been done to put flesh on the bare bones of the agreement — and those on either side who seek to undermine it will be correspondingly encouraged. Above all, there has been no change in the relationship between Israelis and Palestinians, between the occupiers and the occupied, no indication that the mutual recognition which took the world by surprise is to be the prelude to mutual respect and to a reconciliation which is genuine and heartfelt rather than simply a matter of political calculation.

It is on the Palestinian side that such reassurance is most needed, since it is they who have most to lose by taking what is essentially a step in the dark. It is not easy to confound the critics who cry that the PLO has given up too much for too little. It is true, as Ahmad Jibril objects from Damascus, that Yasser Arafat has won no promise of self-determination, no right of return for the Palestinian refugees, no promise by the Israelis that they will remove the settlements illegally established since 1967 on Arab land, and no assurance that the destiny of Jerusalem will at any point be the subject of negotiation between the Israelis who have conquered and annexed it and the Palestinians whose home it was before the state of Israel came into existence. By contrast, says Mr. Jibril, the Israelis have conceded nothing except control of the Gaza Strip, which they were finding more trouble than it was worth.

The argument leaves out of account the central Israeli concession: the reluctant and belated recognition of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people. It is a concession which until very recently seemed unimaginable and which signals the dismantling of the principal barricade against an equitable solution to

## Old mysteries unveiled Italy's turmoil

By Stephen Addison  
Reuter

ROME — This month's stream of disclosures about guerrilla atrocities that have hammed Italy for years is a direct result of the country's institutional upheaval, political analysts believe.

The passing of a powerful ruling clique that blocked all attempts to seek the truth has opened the way for new light to shine on murky incidents of the past, they say.

A growing number of gangland informers and a shake-up in the secret services are also playing a part, several say.

But now the task for investigators is to judge how much of the new evidence is genuine.

The general election of former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, an experienced commentator, mad Sid Ahmad of daily *Al Ahram*, ha observed that "Israel would be better seen emerged as a Singap than as a Somalia." It is right, and the's Israelis , in a spirit, ended self-interest, achieving a genuine, the better for and for all of us.

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## Dubrovnik revives, a monument to human spirit and human shame

By Mort Rosenblum  
The Associated Press

**DUBROVNIK.** Croatia You cannot walk the shell-pocked marble mainstreet of this medieval masterpiece without feeling uplifted by the human spirit and, at the same time, ashamed of the human race.

Dubrovnik was a mess when I first saw it in January 1992, smoking and smelling of garbage. People huddled in hollows under the city walls, fearful that Serb guns would begin another nine-week siege.

Families mourned victims, innocents who died because

they were the wrong sort of southern Slav. In a city as thrilling as Venice across the water, architectural treasures crumbled under shelling.

This month, it was Mick Jagger's new album that boomed in Dubrovnik, echoing from the Cafe Troubadour, where laughing, flirting couples filled every table.

"Yes, I'm proud of this city," said Marko Breskovic, an aging bon vivant who owns the cafe. "Very, very proud. We are all back. Just look around."

I already had. Wood planks covered urban wounds, but they were decorated with kid's

paintings: butterflies, linked hearts, toy-like boats out for a spin with no malice in mind.

Then I asked Marko about Jovanka Popovica, an 82-year-old Serb great grandmother who had served me her hazelnut brandy and demanded to know why the world let crazy people besiege her priceless city.

She had jabbed a bony finger at my chest and ordered: "You tell George Bush to come here. I have something to tell him." She wanted to explain that ordinary Croats and Serbs were normal people.

If powerful nations had acted in time, she said, they would have stopped fanatic leaders from crippling whole nations.

Now it is too late. After I left in July 1992, in yet another round of shelling, a Serb 155mm Howitzer shell exploded in Mrs. Popovica's house atop the fabled walls of Dubrovnik, and she is dead.

Near the troubadour, Lucija Oresic's gallery features the vivid orange war paintings of Edo Muric. She stayed to have a baby during the siege,

each night calming her 4-year-old son as shells fell.

"Friends begged me to come to Italy to safety, but I did not want to leave Dubrovnik," Lucija said. "The world was ignoring us, and we knew we had to come through together, on our own."

This summer, with the Serbs no longer threatening, Dubrovnikers rediscovered their city. The usual tourist horde went elsewhere. You could sip a peaceful coffee or find a spot at the beach.

Businesses suffered but reopened nonetheless. Maybe, some townpeople thought, the world no longer deserved Dubrovnik. Who needed all those outsiders who had left this treasure to its fate?

"We should be more selective about who we encourage to come here," Marko said, beaming at the notion of a city turning away visitors. "We need sensitive people who appreciate this place."

This is not a unanimous view. Last year, on my first trip, Vesna Garulin was the public relations fireball for the mayor's office. Now the local Croatia information officer, she is still a Dubrovnik zealot.

"They should come, everyone, more than before," she said. The city needed to earn money to restore itself with no outside help.

Though proud of the spirit, she is angry that so little was being done to rebuild housing and basic services. The Grand Hotel Imperial, its top floors burned out, is still a refugee camp.

Andro Maticevic, chef and owner of an elegant new eatery called Sebastian, came home after 20 years in Italy to help in the rebirth of Dubrovnik.

"It's a theatre piece we're playing," he said. "The people who can barely make it, they're reality."

It is good theatre. Colourful posters on the damaged walls advertise Oscar Wilde's *The Importance Of Being Earnest*.

But despite the force of human spirit, the shameful episode of human neglect has ensured that old Dubrovnik will never be the same.

Ugly cement patches fill the 47 shell craters on the strada, the marbled main drag. Even if new marble was cut, it would take five centuries of shuffling feet to match the original.

A dozen domes of priceless monuments were hit, and much of the old city is marred by ugly gashes. Beyond what is visible, explosions shook Dubrovnik to its core, pushing

foundation stones out of place. A tremor — or more shelling — could be catastrophic.

"We are doing just a few things," explained Vronimir Franc, another old friend, an architect for the committee for



"It's all right, I understand," Franc said, shaking his head. "People are like that. I can do anything about Azerbaijan or Somalia. What is anyone going to do for just another damaged city?"

## In Delhi, avoid stepping on a resting politician

By Jawed Naqvi  
Reuter

**NEW DELHI** — It's election time in India and the sprawling homes of Delhi's political elite are crammed with "ticket seekers" desperate for a party nomination in next month's state assembly polls.

At night, the vast and nearly moon lawns of the British-built bungalows allotted by the government to senior politicians turn into open air dormitories for the milling crowds of potential candidates.

Tired men — and a few women — from the four populous states that vote next month, spend sleepless nights there before their fate is decided. Some come equipped with blankets to guard against the nippy air.

"In the evenings, you have to walk carefully, lest you step on a future government minister," said Sharad Dadheech as he jostled through the mob in search of a ruling Congress Party nomination to a constituency in the arid state of Rajasthan.

Mr. Dadheech, a small businessman, has been living like this in Delhi for a fortnight. He came with dozens of other hopefuls after a local politician "promised" to fix them election tickets through "high connections."

"There are dozens of us from all parts of Rajasthan who may have been duped," Mr. Dadheech said after he failed to find the politician he

was supposed to meet in Delhi. Others are said to pay money to top party officials. Figures of up to two million rupees (\$65,000) are widely believed.

"We are naive. We stupidly paid money to these people," said Gajendra Kumar, from the central state of Madhya Pradesh. "I have been unable to get anything more palpable than frequent promises of a ticket."

They are all in town because of new elections following Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's dismissal of the rightwing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh last December.

He alleged that they had failed to contain communal violence in the wake of the destruction of an Uttar Pradesh mosque by Hindu zealots.

The rich, poor and unemployed all want a ticket to run, but not necessarily because they want to improve the lives of their potential constituents.

"Winning or losing an election doesn't make a difference to many of these people," said BJP Vice President K. R. Malani, whose party had to quell a near riot when disappointed ticket-seekers became abusive.

"Getting their names on the ballot paper itself gives them a lot of perks. A businessman will improve his business; a doctor will get more clients."

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WEBOEH

HOUSE OF OLD ARTS

# Palestinians try to attract Arab investment

DUBAI (R) — Palestinians are setting up their first commercial office in the Gulf to seek Arab investment in the embryo Palestinian state.

Saeb Banieh, regional director of the Palestinian Samed economic institution, said the office would open soon in Dubai, a booming centre for trade and business.

He said it would be the first of several centres the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) planned in the Arab World and some European countries to woo investors to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, the first areas of limited self-rule under

an Israel-PLO peace deal. "There is a vital need for a role by Arab investors in the reconstruction phase. The Palestinian businessmen will also have a big role," he told Reuters.

The Dubai centre will for the time being cover all the Gulf area until we study the feasibility and willingness of other Gulf countries to set up such centres," he told Reuters.

Mr. Banieh said official contacts would be held to set up a similar centre in Saudi Arabia, which along with its Gulf Arab allies severed funds for Palestinians over the PLO's sympathy for Iraq during the

Gulf crisis over Baghdad's conquest of Kuwait.

The Gulf states have welcomed the accord on Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied territories. Saudi Arabia has pledged \$100 million to help Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip implement the agreement.

Mr. Banieh said the Dubai centre would help coordinate studies and information on investment in the autonomous Palestinian state.

"We will provide all the information on existing projects and planned ones and will coordinate any joint ventures between Palestinians and Arab

businessmen and investment firms," he said. It is very important for us to have total coordination with the Arab countries that should have a direct role in developing the economy and building the infrastructure of the Palestinian state."

"We are aware that as an independent Palestinian state we cannot exist economically outside our Arab environment," he pointed out.

The Arab Contractors Union (ACU), which covers most of the Arab countries, has sent a team to Tunis to discuss business opportunities with the PLO and ask that Arab con-

tractors be given priority in planned projects.

Mr. Banieh said that although the centre had not officially opened it was already receiving many calls from Palestinian and Gulf Arab investors interested in exploring business opportunities.

The Palestinians say they want to concentrate on rebuilding public services after 26 years of Israeli occupation.

A World Bank plan, drafted before the PLO-Israel accord, estimated Palestinian reconstruction needs at \$3 billion over a decade. It raised the estimate to \$5.5 billion after the accord. A Washington

donors conference on Oct. 1 pledged \$2 billion.

According to bankers, Palestinian foreign assets exceed \$20 billion while the Gulf private sector has accumulated more than \$160 billion abroad in the absence of major investment opportunities in the Arab World.

"The offices we are opening will make contacts with Arab official and private institutions to seek their help to rebuild our infrastructure, the international role is not enough."

"This stage of construction is as significant as the stage of struggle, if not more significant."

## Egyptian earnings from oil exports fall

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's net oil export earnings dropped by nearly a quarter in the first half of 1993 compared to the same period last year despite rising crude production.

Official figures published Sunday said crude production rose to 22.91 million tonnes in the first half of 1993, up 5.1 million per cent from 21.79 million tonnes the year before.

Gas production shot up 13.5 per cent to 5.35 million tonnes from 4.63 million tonnes in the first half of 1992, said figures in Al Bitrur, magazine of the state-owned Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation.

But net oil earnings dropped by 23.1 per cent to 1.49 billion Egyptian pounds (\$445 million) from 1.93 billion pounds (\$576 million) in the same period of 1992. Oil export revenues dropped and import demands for oil products rose over the period.

Oil is one of Egypt's chief earners of foreign currency, along with tourism, the Suez Canal and remittances from Egyptians working abroad.

## UAE central bank curbs major bank loans

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has issued rulings limited the size of loans offered by banks in the UAE in an attempt to cut their exposure to potentially major losses, bankers said Saturday.

They said a circular sent to banks Saturday by the UAE central bank set a limit on loans equivalent to seven per cent of a bank's paid-up

capital.

The move was part of the bank's efforts to strengthen the banking structure in the UAE and bring them within international guidelines, they said.

"The central bank wants banks to have tighter policies on their large exposures," one banker said in reference to Saturday's circular.

He said the new regulations

come into force at the beginning of 1994 and also limit loans to other banks to 30 per cent of a bank's capital. Loans by branches of international banks to their parent banks would be limited to 20 per cent, he said.

"I'm sure most of the banks will be affected. They have some major loans to some big groups," he said.

He said the new regulations

but he said he did not expect the rulings to have a negative impact on business in the UAE.

The central bank said Thursday a study had shown the main cause of financial problems suffered by UAE banks were due to "defaults on big loans granted by banks to a single borrower or to a group of related borrowers."

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius (R) — French-speaking countries meeting in Mauritius have backed Paris in its campaign to ward off Anglo-Saxon culture by keeping films and television programmes out of the GATT agreement on free world trade.

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said Sunday that all 47 countries and communities at La Francophonie's sum-

mit passed a resolution supporting "cultural exemption" in the Uruguay Round of talks on a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"We unanimously passed a resolution asking GATT to allow for (special measures)... to preserve cultural identity — that is to say the cultural exemption," Mr. Juppe told reporters.

French President Francois Mitterrand made the issue the core of his opening address to the 48-hour summit Saturday.

He said free market mechanisms and advanced communications could achieve the failed goal of communism — to strap the whole world into the straitjacket of a single culture.

"Cinema and television go very deep in people's souls.

They cannot be treated like cereals or steel sheets," Mr. Juppe said.

Both Mr. Mitterrand and United Nations chief Boutros Ghali told the summit that the organisation, which spans five continents and a wide variety of countries, was a model of diversity that must be preserved.

## Czech leader warns against World Bank loans

WASHINGTON (R) — Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus bluntly warned the World Bank and other institutions Friday against large aid programmes to once-communist countries, saying they undermined those nations they intended to help.

Mr. Klaus said Prague had rejected some loans offered by the World Bank and the Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) because it would be "irresponsible" of his government to accept.

He said countries making the dramatic change from communism to market economies should accept only macro-

economic standby loans aimed at making possible the earliest, most basic reforms: Price and foreign trade liberalisation and currency convertibility.

"Anything else and any other form of lending is wrong," he said. "The World Bank and the EBRD are pushing us to accept loans... we tried to explain, 'you are pushing us to trouble.'"

We were the only country (in eastern Europe) that succeeded in resisting them," he said. Mr. Klaus, prime minister of the Czech Republic since it split with Slovakia in 1992, was formerly the Czechoslovak

finance minister, a post he took just after that country ousted communist leaders in 1989.

An adviser to Mr. Klaus, Jiri Weigl, explained that when Czechoslovakia was still united, it rejected World Bank loans for financial and technical assistance, which would have required guarantees from the Prague government.

Mr. Klaus in particular railed against the World Bank requirements of a government guarantee to back up its loans, saying it was "nonsense."

"Either the project suggested by the firm, analysed by

the World Bank and EBRD is good, or not. To ask for an additional guarantee means to ask the government to start central planning again," he said.

A World Bank official reacting to Mr. Klaus' remarks said that the bank had in fact granted a loan for a power and environmental improvement project in the Czech Republic.

Mr. Klaus's perspective appeared almost unique in eastern Europe, where many

government officials have beaten a path to the door of the World Bank and other international financial institutions seeking large-scale financial assistance.

But as Mr. Klaus boasted, the Czech Republic is doing better economically than the rest of the post-communist countries. It enjoys a low inflation rate, a government budget surplus and an unemployment rate most of the Western world can envy — 3.17 per cent.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY OCTOBER 18, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation  
GENERAL TENDENCIES: An associate may argue seriously with a higher-up today but be sure that you don't get pulled into discussion for no matter where you stand on the subject you will lose. Keep occupied with your own tasks.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Start the week right by getting into property interests that require attention and build up a new structure while tonight avoid a wacky companion.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can take a good look at yourself during the day and can improve conscientiously whatever requires updating while tonight keep your purse/wallet zipped.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You need to get private information for a better way to have your mundane affairs handled in the days ahead and tonight study plans for the future.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can make considerable progress in gaining a long time desire so concentrate upon this today and tonight don't let a worry get you down.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Start today right by tackling outside duties during the daytime and you make big progress while tonight don't try to gain a difficult personal aim.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) All kinds of advanced plans that can be helpful to your pleasure.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Getting out the various communications that await your attention can be done with detailed efficiency now after which don't get in a family argument.

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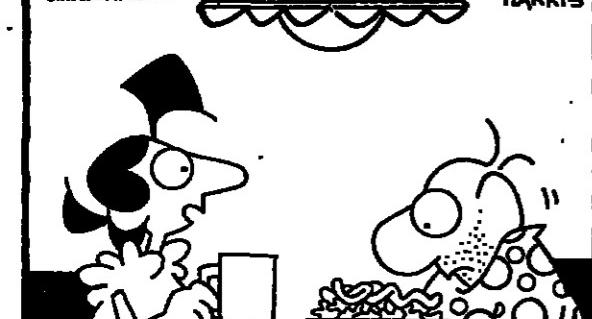
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## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**REDEL**

**STUMY**

**UNIMME**

**PHANEPE**

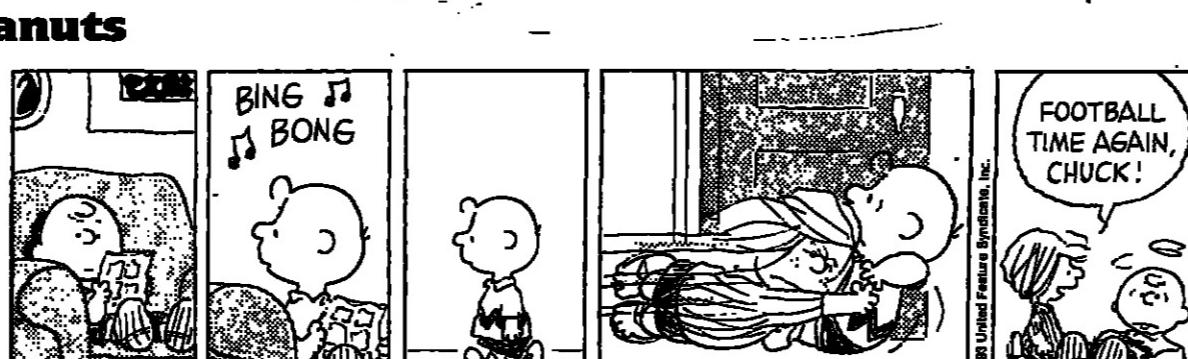
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

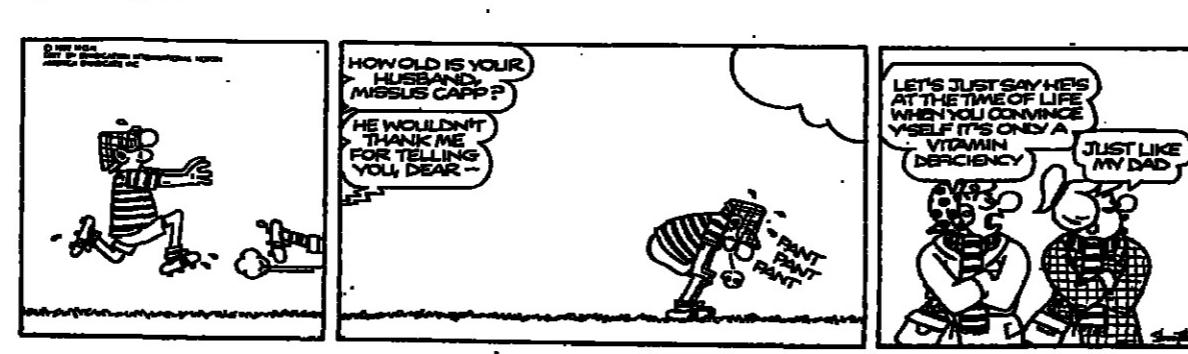
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HELLO FAIRY DRUDGE IMBIBE  
Answer: What the passengers did to the conductor when the train was late — "RAILED" AT HIM

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp

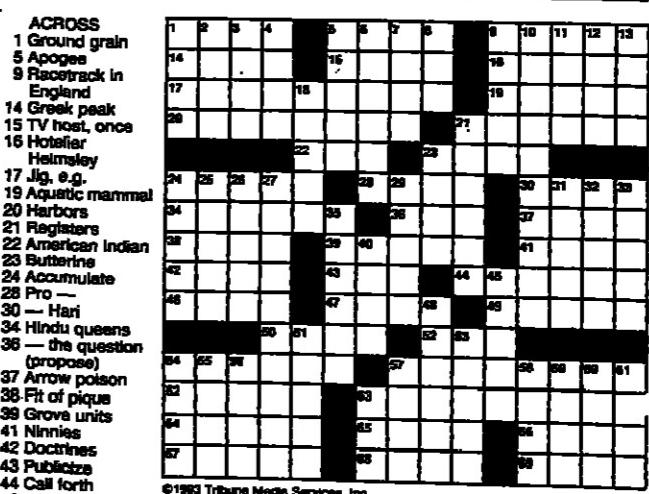


## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## THE Daily Crossword

by Rena M. Campbell



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

7	English	Scarecrows	for	9	West	Indian	Arild	11	BARRON

AMERICAN FINANCIAL MARKET BROKING BANK CENTER JORDAN - RELIANT ORGANIZED MARKET HOME PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY 17/10/1993					
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED VOLUME NO.	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	PRICE CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
ARM BANK	106,013	160.502	160.216	-0.286	-0.16%
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	2,473	4.970	4.990	+0.020	+0.40%
JORDAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	12,642	2.020	2.030	+0.010	+0.50%
JORDAN CREDIT BANK	17,034	5.150	5.190	+0.040	+0.78%
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	12,152	3.370	3.350	-0.020	-0.60%
JORDAN TRADE BANK	2,232	4.600	4.520	-0.080	-1.78%
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	43,070	1.850	1.850	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT/JORDAN	4,500	4.500	4.500	0.000	0.00%
JORDANIAN EXIM BANK	28,012	3.900	4.150	+0.250	+6.40%
JORDANIAN LIFE INSURANCE	13,185	3.950	4.150	+0.150	+3.80%
JORDANIAN NATIONAL BANK	820	3.960	3.100	-0.860	-21.80%
JORDANIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	80,393	2.000	2.040	+0.040	+2.00%
JORDANIAN NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	20,090	0.920	0.900	-0.020	-2.17%
JORDAN PETROLEUM INVESTMENT	903	1.680	1.640	-0.040	-2.38%
JORDAN PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT LEASING	208	1.120	1.120	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	584	1.160	1.160	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN MIDDLE EAST & GULF TRADING	1,160	1.160	1.160	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	8,270	2.750	2.740	-0.010	-0.37%
JORDAN PETROLEUM EXPORTATION	75,905	3.180	3.170	-0.010	-0.31%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	54,380	7.780	7.760	-0.020	-0.26%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	80,393	2.000	2.040	+0.040	+2.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	59,897	6.100	6.100	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	22,248	7.500	7.450	-0.050	-0.67%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	12,152	3.370	3.350	-0.020	-0.60%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	4,859	3.800	3.800	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	6,918	2.860	2.820	-0.040	-1.42%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	10,010	2.100	2.100	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	40,014	3.780	3.800	+0.020	+0.53%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	315	2.110	2.150	+0.040	+1.88%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	1,370	1.950	1.950	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	18,380	5.550	5.520	-0.030	-0.54%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	8,984	1.950	1.950	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	3,474	2.750	2.650	-0.100	-3.57%
JORDAN PLASTIC INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	84,373	3.420	3.420	0.000	0.00%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>1,569,750</b>			
NO. OF TRADED SECURITIES IN PARALLEL MARKET		142,117			
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET		30,211			

## Mauritania, Yemen seek loans linked to reform

ABU DHABI (R) — Yemen and Mauritania, two poor Arab states pursuing economic reform, have asked the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) for new loans, the AMF said.

The Abu Dhabi-based AMF, the Arab World's main financial arm, did not say how much the two states wanted in new loans.

"It is worth mentioning that the two countries are trying to restructure their economic situation," said the AMF which links new loans to economic reforms.

AMF lending to Arab states stood at \$2.4 billion by 1992, \$805 million of which were still outstanding.

Yemen has a total of 17 loan agreements with the AMF worth \$317 million. Mauritania has 13 worth \$172 million.

## Khartoum backs further away from IMF reforms

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military government is restoring criminal penalties for unauthorised possession of hard currency, but the crime will no longer send offenders to the gallows.

The central bank's order marks a further step away from International Monetary Fund (IMF) guidelines that Khartoum must meet to return to the good graces of the world financial community. Already this year, commodity subsidies discontinued under IMF guidelines were reinstated in a fight against uncontrolled inflation.

Neither move has any real effect, however. The fund took the unprecedented step three months ago of suspending Sudan's membership because of unpaid debts.

Sabir Mohammadi Al Hassan, the bank's governor, said inflation also is a target of the moves announced Friday

right. Another is to stop illegal currency dealing that is depriving economy of huge amounts of foreign exchange.

"These measures are meant to curb dealing in hard currency, which is a parasite activity outside the banking system," Mr. Hassan said.

A dollar sold for more than 350 Sudanese pounds on the black market Saturday, compared to an official rate of 160 pounds to a dollar. When Brigadier Omar Hassan Al Bashir took power on June 30, 1989, and made himself a lieutenant general, the official rate was 4.5 pounds to a dollar with an alternative tourist rate of 12-to-1.

Sudan has been on the outs with the IMF for years because of its inability to pay more than \$1.4 billion in debts.

Gen. Bashir's ruling junta began offering government-owned businesses for sale to private interests in 1990, a first

step in negotiating a deal to regain eligibility for IMF loans.

Its membership was suspended despite the efforts, however, a move that Gen. Bashir contended was politically inspired by the United States.

Under current foreign-exchange rules, anybody can possess and take out of the country any amount of hard currency without having to prove its origin.

But Central Bank Governor

Hassan said the country will

return after a three-week grace period to a requirement for owners to have a hard-currency bank account or an "official document of ownership" for all hard currencies.

The grace period is to allow registration of money or opening of accounts. The central bank governor said those found with undocumented money outside the banking system would be put on trial.



AMMAN — His excellency the ambassador of Japan, Mr. Yuji Ikeda, kindly paid a visit to Medical Centre on the occasion of the opening of the sales of the Japanese Company OMRON, which is considered as the leading company in the world for producing high-tech medical electronic appliances for examining the blood pressure, body temperature, thermometers, body massagers, nebulizers and pedometers.

His excellency ambassador

Ikeda, was received by Mr. George M. Khouri, the managing director of Medical Centre.

The ambassador of Japan expressed his appreciation and admiration to the owners and operators of the centre for their efficient distribution of OMRON high-tech medical appliances.

## Financial Markets Jordan Times

In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

### Foreign Exchange Market Summary (October 8-October 15, 1993)

AMMAN — The U.S. dollar moved higher against all other major currencies, as it ended last week 0.83 per cent higher against the mark, 1.56 per cent higher against Sterling and 1.03 per cent higher against the yen. The dollar's rally was inspired by the renewal of ERM tensions in Europe, in addition to encouraging U.S. economic figures.

The dollar was slightly higher against other major currencies Monday. Reports indicated that trading was thin as Tokyo and many U.S. banks were closed on holiday. Reports also indicated that traders preferred to stay on the sidelines and were reluctant to take new positions while awaiting for the outcome of the German Constitutional Court's decision on the Maastricht Treaty the next day. Analysts indicated that uncertainty over the implications of a negative decision on the European Monetary System, prompted further mark buying. Other analysts added however, that even if the German Court rejected or questioned some aspects of the Treaty, demand for marks would be short-lived as this would not cause any change in European governments' monetary and fiscal policies.

The dollar retreated against the mark Tuesday, but remained unchanged against other major currencies. Analysts indicated that the dollar moved lower against the mark despite the German Constitutional Court's acceptance of the Maastricht Treaty. Dealers continued to hold their long mark positions, built up the previous day in view of high German interest rates and increasing concerns over the pace of U.S. economic recovery.

The U.S. currency rebounded against European currencies Wednesday after a wave of speculative selling of Belgian and French francs lifted market expectations of renewed tensions in the ERM. The Belgian franc moved lower against the mark, despite repeated intervention by the Belgian Central Bank and the U.S. Federal Reserve. The French franc also moved lower against the mark as it closed at 3.5305 francs per mark. Analysts attributed much of the French franc's weakness to increased expectations that the Bank of France might cut interest rates soon. Selling of French francs for marks, related to a Russian debt restructuring, further hampered the French unit.

The dollar continued to appreciate against European currencies for the remainder of the week. The release of mildly positive U.S. economic numbers Thursday caused the dollar to move higher against other major currencies, especially the yen. The dollar ended at 107.45 yen, its highest for the week. The British pound continued to decline against the dollar closing at \$1.5147. Sterling's weakness was attributed to discouraging economic data and ongoing political tension related to Mr. Major's position as leader of the Conservative Party.

While trading remained quiet and subdued Friday, the dollar moved slightly higher on short-covering to finish at its highest closing levels of the week at 1.6173 marks and \$1.5105 to the pound. Reports indicated that traders refrained from taking short mark positions because of tensions surrounding the ERM, despite the release of a set of positive U.S. economic reports. The dollar ended the week at 1.6173 marks and 107.15 yen, while Sterling ended it at \$1.5105.

### New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	8/10/93 Close	15/10/93 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.5345	1.5105	(1.56)%
Deutsche Mark	1.6038	1.6173	10.83%
Swiss Franc	1.4053	1.4278	(1.58)%
French Franc	5.6250	5.7238	(1.80)%
Japanese Yen	106.05	107.15	(1.03)%

### Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 17/10/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6910	0.6930
Sterling Pound	1.0430	1.0482
Deutsche Mark	0.4269	0.4290
Swiss Franc	0.4636	0.4860
French Franc	0.1205	0.1211
Japanese Yen	0.6442	0.6474
Dutch Guilder	0.3793	0.3812
Swedish Krona	.....	.....
Italian Lira	0.0436	0.0438
Belgian Franc	.....	.....

per 100

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## Pro-Yeltsin parties blossom ahead of December elections

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Political parties loyal to President Boris Yeltsin have blossomed in Russia this weekend, with two forming a coalition shortly after their founding and a third courting the regional vote.

Their target is the Dec. 12 parliamentary elections, which will be Russia's first democratic elections for a Federal Assembly since the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

Two leading liberal groups, Democratic Russia and Russia's Choice, decided to form a coalition Saturday night at the founding congress of Russia's Choice, Interfax News Agency reported.

The pro-Yeltsin alliance, to be called Russia's Choice Coalition, will field a joint slate of candidates including First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeiko, Economy Minister Yegor Gaidar, Yeltsin aides Gennady Burlus and Mikhail Poltoranin, and Democratic Russia's leaders Lev Ponomarev and Gleb Yakunin, the news agency added.

On Sunday Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Shakrai formed another pro-Yeltsin group, the Russian Unity and

Concord Party (RUCP), in a bid to win support from Russia's regions in the Dec. 12 polls.

Both the coalition and the RUCP intend to launch their electoral campaigns Sunday night.

Speaking during the RUCP's founding congress in Novgorod, 200 kilometres south of Saint Petersburg, Mr. Shakrai said Russians were scared of political parties.

"Seventy years of communism have given birth to a mentality of doing without," Mr. Shakrai said.

He claimed RUCP had the "moral support" of Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin as well as Deputy Prime Ministers Oleg Soskovets and Alexander Shukhin.

Mr. Shakrai said his group had not joined the Russia's Choice Coalition because it was likely to break up after the elections.

"We want to be a stable organisation, free of scandals and fractures."

Russian Unity and Concord's platform calls for a market economy and the restoration of economic relations across the former Soviet Union.

ion.

The party aims to create a strong federalist government in Russia and hopes to attract the support of those regional leaders who want a less centralised state.

The party also supports state regulation. "Large industrial and financial corporations, having sufficient resources to pursue investment policies, are the basis of economic growth," the RUCP manifesto says.

The elections follow Mr. Yeltsin's decision last month to dissolve the Soviet-era parliament, which had repeatedly opposed his reforms.

Hardline members of the dissolved parliament, and sacked Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi are among opposition figures in detention facing charges of organising mass disturbances.

This carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in jail. Russia still has the death penalty, carried out by shooting, for more serious offences such as treason.

Moscow has been swarming with troops, police and riot staves when they stopped a column of around 20,000 demonstrators from marching on a bookshop in southeast London which serves as the headquarters of the extreme right-wing British National Party (BNP).

As those leading the biggest anti-racist march in Britain since the 1970s tried to force a way through youths masked in

day showed.

TASS news agency said the Ministry of Internal Affairs asked 1,000 Russians how the ringleaders of the Oct. 3-4 revolt, in which scores died and many more were injured, should be punished, if found guilty.

A fifth favoured the death penalty, one in eight wanted them sentenced to life imprisonment and about the same number said the plotters should face more than 10 years in jail. But a quarter of those questioned gave no specific answer.

Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the dissolved parliament, and sacked Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi are among opposition figures in detention facing charges of organising mass disturbances.

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As those leading the biggest anti-racist march in Britain since the 1970s tried to force a way through youths masked in

balacras, turned on the police, triggering a pitched battle.

Officers in riot gear, many mounted on horseback, repeatedly charged into their attackers. Witnesses reported seeing policemen felled by missiles and many protesters limping away, bleeding and in

shock.

Police were pelted with

lumps of concrete, bricks and

stones when they stopped a

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## teams vie for Jordan Cup title

By Aileen Rannayan  
for the Jordan Times

JORDAN — The battle for 1993 Jordan Cup title has narrowed down to teams after an eventful semi-final week that saw former champions Al Ramtha thrown out of the competition by lowly former division club Sahab.

Ramtha, 10 winners, Al Ahli will face Sahab in first match of the semi-final round Monday. Al Jisr, 3-1 winners over Al Asas, take on titleholders Palsai in the other semi-final match Friday.

The teams will play the

leg of the semifinal

on Nov. 4 and 5 after

national team returns

from matches played

in the United Arab Emi-

ties' week's most surpris-

ing result was Sahab's win

over Al Wihdat in a match

decided by penalty kicks.

Al Sahab won 6-5 after

match ended in a 2-2

draw.

In another match, Al

naha's Badran Al Shaqran

and his team 1-0 win over

Abi after teammates Nart

aj and Khalil Moham-

ad lost definite scoring

chances in the first half.

The titleholders managed a

win over Al Jazireh after

Abi Suleiman received a

kick from Firas Khalaleh.

Minutes later Jamal Abu

ad's shot hit the post end-

ing the match with a lone

goal for Al Faisali.

Qadissieh's match with

the

team

ended in a 1-1 draw.

Meanwhile, the Jordan

Soccer Federation (JSF) de-

cided to go ahead with the

1993 first division cham-

pionship starting next month.

The federation had post-

poned the kick off anticipat-

ing work at Al Hussein

Youth City to be completed,

however the teams will have

to play at Al Hassan Sports

City in Irbid and Al Petre

Stadium.

The JSF has decided that

the 12 teams will play a one-

leg first round. The top six

teams will then play a decid-

ing round of their own, while

the remaining six will play a

round of their own to decide

the four teams to be re-

gated to the second division.

nessed the highest number of goals. Munir Abu Hantash scored Al Qadissieh's first goal but Fuheis's Kamal Diyab quickly equalised from a penalty kick. In the second half Abu Hantash scored again followed two minutes later by the third goal by Thaer Ibrahim to give Al Qadissieh a berth in the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) decided to go ahead with the 1993 first division championship starting next month.

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**Jordan Cup winners**

1980: Al Faisali
1981: Al Faisali
1982: Al Wihdat
1983: Al Faisali
1984: Al Jazireh
1985: Al Wihdat
1986: Al Arabi
1987: Al Faisali
1988: Al Wihdat
1989: Al Faisali
1990: Al Ramtha
1991: Al Ramtha
1992: Al Faisali

## Asia may get 3 slots in 1998 World Cup finals

DOHA (Agencies) — Asia, which contains 56 per cent of world's population but has only two slots in the World Cup soccer finals, may get an extra slot in the 1998 championship in France, soccer officials said Sunday.

"There is strong logic and there is fair hope," said Peter Velappan, general secretary of the world soccer body FIFA's Asian Football Confederation.

The Asian continent is made up of 42 countries, but poor soccer performance and lack of initiative in promoting soccer have been stumbling blocks in its uneven representation in the World Cup.

Japan, which has risen from the rubble of World War II to become the world's second largest economic power and the world's top donor of international aid, has come to Asia's rescue.

"We are aware of new Asian interest in soccer and the Japanese push to get the games," said Velappan of Asian Football Confederation.

"Japan is a very strong contender for the 2002 games," said FIFA Vice President Viacheslav Koloskov.

"If Asia does well in the U.S. World Cup, there will be a very good reason to increase Asian representation in the future games," said Koloskov of Russia.

Japan's GNP accounts for 13 per cent of the world total, its per capita national income ranks fifth among the main industrialised nations and its unemployment rate is one of the lowest.

In Doha, capital of the tiny Arab nation of Qatar, which is hosting the World Cup Asian final qualification round, Japan has launched its campaign to get the 2002 games.

"Japan loves goals," read prints on every gift that the Japanese are giving away.

Stickers are pasted on taxis, hotel rooms and even in stadium.

Japanese journalists and officials promote their soccer in broken English to even Doha taxi drivers, who are mostly Indians, understanding English.

"To make our dream come true we are broadcasting our

"We would welcome a bid from China but it's too soon."

Gosper urges calm over Sydney Olympics budget

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australian International Olympic Committee Vice President Kevan Gosper says doubts over Sydney's ability to meet the cost of hosting the 2000 Olympics have concerned the IOC.

Gosper, here for a meeting of the Oceania Olympic Committee, said he had been fielding calls from concerned IOC members, including President Juan Antonio Samaranch, seeking reassurance on the matter.

Last week any lingering euphoria over Sydney's two-point victory over Peking in the IOC vote in Monte Carlo on Sept. 23 was neutralised by reports that the treasury warned the New South Wales government that new taxes would be needed or public spending should be cut to pay for the Olympics.

"He just made some bad pitches and they hit them," said Philadelphia manager Jim Fregosi.

Philadelphia had plenty of chances, leaving 11 men on base compared to Toronto's four. The Jays committed three errors and the Phillies one.

It had also caused against

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What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K7J3 ♦W8S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A4K4 ♦W9S2 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.8—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.9—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.10—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.11—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

The bidding has proceeded:

With West: North East

Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.12—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

7S54 ♦W9S3 ♦AQK75 ♦K9S5

# U.S. says military action not ruled out in Haiti

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — The United States has not ruled out military intervention in Haiti to protect American lives and restore democracy there, President Bill Clinton's ambassador to the United Nations said Sunday.

Madeleine Albright told NBC Television Washington was monitoring the situation there very closely and was standing by to evacuate some 1,000 Americans if necessary. "The protection of American lives is foremost in our minds," she said. "We don't rule anything in or anything out, this is a very tense situation, but one in which we have to maintain calmness about our response."

Mr. Clinton on Friday ordered six U.S. warships to blockade Haiti and enforce a U.N.-imposed embargo due to take effect late on Monday. On Saturday the U.S. embassy flew in 30 additional Marine guards and set up a telephone network to alert American citizens about potential violence.

The Canadian embassy has already urged all 2,300 of its citizens to leave the country immediately.

Asked if the United States would use military force if the situation in Haiti continued to escalate or if the U.S. embassy was attacked, Ms. Albright said: "We have not ruled out anything. We are concerned about protecting American lives and restoring democracy."

A warship appeared off the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince Sunday, and two to three ships were already in place to enforce an imminent world petroleum and arms embargo, a U.S. embassy official said.

Spokesman Stanley Schrager said all six ships ordered by President Clinton should be patrolling international waters off Haiti by day's end, 24 hours before the embargo is scheduled to begin.

Residents in the Carrefour neighbourhood of Port-au-Prince reported seeing the gray warship, with a helicopter in the back, off the coast, and an Associated Press reporter on an aerial survey spotted it halfway between the island of Gonave and the capital.

Mr. Schrager said he did not

know what ship it was.

The appearance came as Haitians jammed onto trucks in a downtown plaza to leave following the departure of nearly all U.N. personnel.

Fears have risen as those

opposed to the return of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide have announced that they will shut down the city on Monday. Previous shutdown calls have succeeded, with help from the military and allied civilian gangs.

On a street in the Delmas area of the capital, gunmen killed a young woman who had been carrying a suitcase, presumably intending to leave. There were no further details.

At the plaza, at least 150 people, including many children, were crammed onto the bed of one truck headed for the southern town of Les Cayes. Some straddled the side walls to fit. An empty pickup truck was mobbed with Haitians wanting to escape the volatile capital even before it came to a stop in the downtown plaza.

Heavy gunfire was heard throughout the night in some capital neighbourhoods. The unidentified gunmen shouted to residents, "you can come out now, Aristide won't be coming back."

The country's international airport was jammed with American and Canadian citizens who were urged to leave Haiti or take security precautions ahead of the anticipated international show-down.

Some were missionaries or relief workers who have worked in rural provinces of Haiti, where peasants live in extreme poverty.

The stringent U.N. trade sanctions scheduled to go into effect Monday are aimed at choking the military's hold on the impoverished country.

France is considering joining the naval blockade of Haiti, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said.

France was very concerned

by the situation in the Caribbean country, and it will make every effort to ensure the accord on Mr. Aristide's return is implemented, he told reporters at the Francophone summit in Mauritius.

"We supported the Security Council resolution that reimposed the sanctions ... as to the naval blockade, we are studying how we can take part," Mr. Juppe said.

"No decision has been taken."

## Clinton blasts Europe on Bosnia

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher have blasted Europe's policy on the former Yugoslavia and admitted mistakes on Somalia in soul-searching interviews on the second phase, costing \$320 million and due for completion in April 1996.

### BBC scraps ad depicting Arafat

LONDON (AP) — The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) said Saturday it has apologised to golfer pro-Nick Faldo for placing newspaper advertisements that depicted Yasser Arafat apparently whispering to him. BBC chiefs have scrapped the ad, which appeared in British newspapers this week to promote the state-supported broadcaster's new 24-hour radio station for news and sports, which goes on air next year. The caption below the spliced photo-image read: "From April 1994 they'll be on the same wavelength," emphasising that news and sports coverage will be combined in the service. Some readers thought the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief appeared to be kissing Mr. Faldo, not confiding in him. A BBC spokeswoman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the ad was put together hastily and Mr. Faldo was picked because he was "one of the finest examples of British sport." It was published without his approval and Mr. Faldo's agents swiftly complained.

### German troops may leave Somalia in April

BONN (R) — German Defence Minister Volker Ruehe says Sunday Germany's contingent in the United Nations mission in Somalia may pull out of the country in April 1994. "April next year is a likely date, but this has to be agreed with the United States and with our European partners," Mr. Ruehe said in a television interview. Mr. Ruehe added that the German support unit of 1,200 soldiers would be reduced to some 400 to 500 men in November.

### Rafsanjani denies backing Turkish rebels

TEHRAN (AFP) — President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, in a meeting here with the Turkish interior minister on Sunday, denied allegations that Iran backed Kurdish rebel attacks against Ankara. In talks with Interior Minister Mehmet Gazioğlu, Mr. Rafsanjani also said: "It is expected that Turkish officials would explicitly deny these baseless charges and make people aware of the enemies' conspiracies," according to Tehran Radio. The Turkish media as well as several officials in Turkey have repeatedly accused Iran of providing logistical support to the fighters of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which has been waging fierce battle against the government in Ankara. Tehran has consistently denied the charges. "We stress cooperation with Turkey to preserve tranquillity, and Iran will never let chaos and insecurity prevail at our common border," the president said. Mr. Rafsanjani also called for bilateral and regional cooperation with Turkey, and for exchanges in economic and technical fields as well as in the area of transportation.

democratically-elected Aristide to power on Oct. 30.

Supporters of the military junta last week killed the justice minister in a pro-Aristide cabinet sworn in following the accord. They also blocked a small U.N. police force from landing.

Rumours were flying about Sunday the whereabouts of former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier. Mr. Duvalier, who has been living in exile in France since his ouster in 1986, has not been seen for several weeks, according to a Miami Herald report.

His mother, Simone Duvalier, was seen in Haiti in September at a family wedding and it was not clear if she had flown back to her home in France.

Mr. Duvalier and his father ruled the nation with an iron hand for 29 years, looting hundreds of millions of dollars from the treasury. Some members of their private security force, the dreaded Ton-Tons Macoute, are believed to be among the civilian gunmen now terrorising the city.

In Washington, Mr. Aristide said on Saturday he was confident the blockade would force out the military junta and possibly allow him to return this month as scheduled.

He repeated his opposition to sending foreign troops to Haiti and said the removal of Gen. Cedras and police chief Michel Francois was essential to restoring democracy.

"The only thing we have to continue doing is moving the way we are moving through this blockade, in order to have them out," Mr. Aristide told the Cable News Network. "Let's move fast to remove the killers from the country."

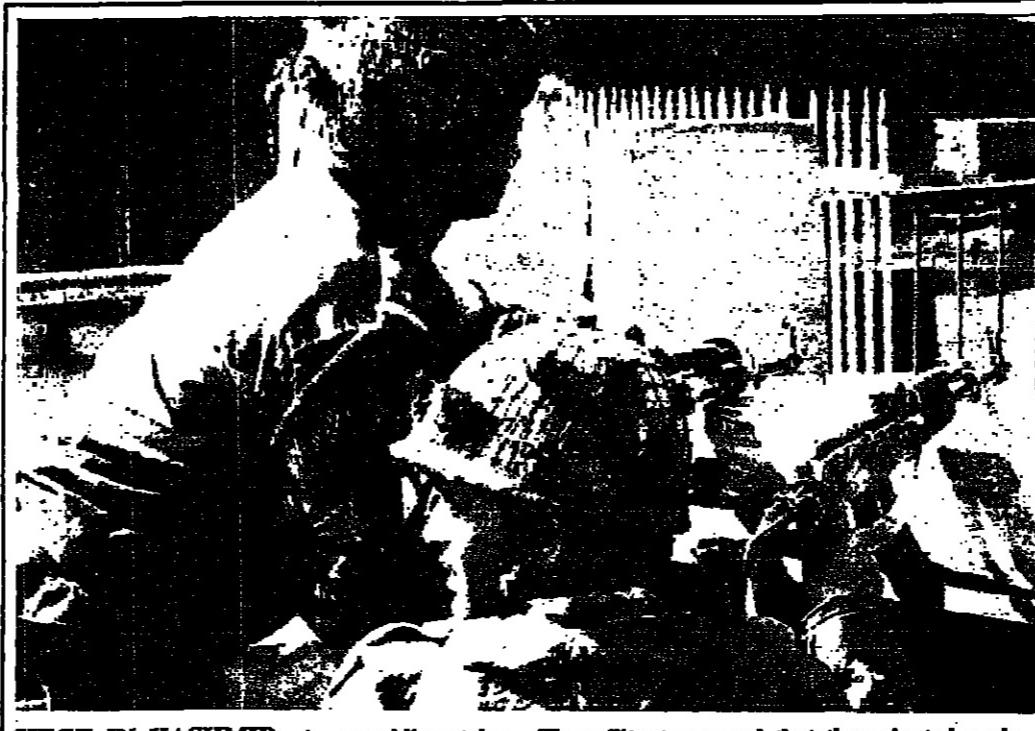
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"No decision has been taken."



SIEGE IN KASHMIR: Army soldiers take positions near Kashmir's holiest Islamic shrine where Muslim rebels are holed up (see page 8).

The militants warned that they planted explosives and threatened to blow up the Hazratbal shrine in the event of an army assault (AFP)

## France: Aziz visit apolitical

PORT LOUIS (Agencies) — France has allowed Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz to enter a Paris hospital as a humanitarian gesture, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said here Sunday.

Mr. Aziz, 57, had arrived in France for medical treatment, the foreign ministry had said in Paris earlier. The ministry declined to reveal when Mr. Aziz landed, but added the visit was "limited."

Speaking in Mauritius where he is attending the summit of Francophone states, Mr. Juppe stressed that Mr. Aziz travels widely, often visiting the United States, and that his trip to Paris was authorised for medical reasons.

"Many countries have relations with Iraq," Mr. Juppe said. France, "like other states, recently agreed to Iraq's setting up an interests' section."

"Our aim remains to see that Iraq fulfills the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council, nothing more."

"This matter is simply a humanitarian gesture," Mr. Juppe said, adding that all the relevant government departments have approved Mr. Aziz's visa.

Presidential spokesman Jean Mustilli said here: "This is not another Habash incident."

He was referring to the January 1992 visit to a Paris clinic by George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, accused by the West of responsibility for a number of attacks.

The "offensive" paragraph in the ESCWA report was removed from the report in response to a demand from the representative of Kuwait, supported by the Saudi and Qatari delegates.

Mr. Aziz is a member of the Revolutionary Command Council, the highest decision-making body under Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

He came to world attention while serving as foreign minister from 1983 to 1991, during which he defended Iraq's positions in the Iran-Iraq and Gulf wars.

An Iraqi opposition group said in a statement that Mr. Aziz, whose country has had no diplomatic ties with France since the Gulf war, was planning high-level meetings to grant oil concessions to the French in Iraq.

French spokesman had no comment on the claim made in a statement by a group calling itself the "national committee to save Iraq."

The Moroccan ambassador, whose country represents Iraqi interests in France, was not available for comment.

The Iraqi opposition group said last week Mr. Aziz began planning the French stay two months ago under the guise of medical treatment to discuss "giving France and French companies important privileges in Iraq and control over oil and the Iraqi economy."

## Qadhafi blasts U.N., its secretary-general

CAIRO (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said Sunday the Arab World was threatened by new colonialists in the United Nations and accused its secretary-general of being a "postman" for the West.

Colonel Qadhafi's speech came on the eve of a U.N. Security Council vote to expand sanctions against his country for its refusal to send two Libyans for trial in Britain or the United States on charges of blowing up Pan Am Flight 103.

"The Arab World is facing a real enemy in the United Nations," Col. Qadhafi told a youth meeting in the Mediterranean city of Misrata.

Col. Qadhafi, in remarks carried by Libya's JANA news agency and monitored in Cairo, warned of the return of "colonizing nations," an apparent reference to Britain and France which are joining the United States in pushing for strict sanctions.

U.N. sanctions in place since April 1992 ban international flights and arms sales and have reduced diplomatic representation. The broader sanctions to be considered by the Security Council would ban sales of some vital oil production equipment.

The only thing for him to do is to protect the honour of Egypt, since he is Egyptian, and to protect Arab honour because he is an Arab, is to resign after they put him in this terrible position," Col. Qadhafi said of Dr. Ghali.

Col. Qadhafi illustrated his postman metaphor with the Lockerbie crisis.

Tehran and Baghdad have exchanged more than 37,000 prisoners since they stopped fighting, but Iran still holds some 20,000 Iraqis and Iraq holds 5,000 Iranians, according to the Red Cross.

## Iranian team in Iraq to discuss relations

NICOSIA (AP) — An Iranian delegation headed by a Foreign Ministry official arrived in Baghdad Sunday, the first high-level exchange between the two countries in three years.

The state-run Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the team, headed by Javad Zarif, deputy foreign minister for international affairs, will start official talks Monday.

"The U.N. secretary-general can only act as a postman, taking messages back and forth without suggesting any solutions," he said. "His transformation to postman is an insult to the Arabs because his Arab identity is being ignored."

Libya appeared to be trying to break its deadlock with the West by stating last week that it would encourage the men to stand trial in Scotland.

But after a two-day meeting between the defendants and a team of international lawyers last week, Scottish lawyer Alastair Duff said he did not expect the men to surrender for trial in anywhere in Britain or the United States.

"A settlement of these issues is important if good-neighbourliness and stability are to be created in the region," Tehran Radio quoted Mr. Zarif as saying.

Tehran and Baghdad have exchanged more than 37,000 prisoners since they stopped fighting, but Iran still holds some 20,000 Iraqis and Iraq holds 5,000 Iranians, according to the Red Cross.

Iran, Iraq's eastern neighbour, stands to gain a windfall from a revived Iraqi economy in need of everything, from food to industrial and consumer goods.

## COLUMN

Barbara Bush does not miss Washington

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former first lady Barbara Bush, who spent 25 years in Washington, says there's not much she misses about the nation's capital.

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France for medical treatment,

the foreign ministry had said in Paris earlier. The ministry declined to reveal when Mr. Aziz landed, but added the visit was "limited."

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